

SEARCH *for* LOVE

FEB.-MAR.

10¢

GET BACK...ALL
OF YOU! YOU CAN'T TAKE HIM
FROM ME...YOU CAN'T BRAND
HIM AS A THIEF...NOT WHEN
HE'S THE MAN I LOVE!





WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

HAVE A SLIMMER YOUTHFUL FEMININE APPEARANCE INSTANTLY! **REDUCE**

Don't look old before your time. Do as thousands of others do, wear a comfortable new and improved **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT!** The **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT**, with the amazing new adjustable front panel, controls your figure the way you want it, with added support where you need it most. Simply adjust the laces and **PRESTO** your mid section is reshaped and your back braced and you look and feel younger!

More Up-Lift and Hold-in Power!

The **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT** takes weight off tired feet and gives you a more alluring, more darily feminine, curvaceous figure the instant you put it on. It gives you lovely curves just in the right places, with no unwanted bulges in the wrong ones. It whittles your waistline to nothingness, no matter what shape you may now have. It's easily adjusted — always comfortable!

Test the ADJUST-O-BELT Up-Lift Principle with Your Own Hands!

Clasp your hands over your abdomen, press upwards and in gently but firmly. You feel better don't you! That's just what the **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT** does for you, only the **ADJUST-O-BELT** does it better. Mail Coupon and test it at home for 10 days **FREE** at our expense!

Appear Slimmer, and Feel Better!

The **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT** lifts and flattens unsightly bulges, comfortably, quickly, firmly. It readjusts easily to changes in your figure, yet no laces touch your body. It gives instant slenderizing figure control. It fashionably shapes your figure to its slimmest lines. Like magic the **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT** obeys your every wish. Pounds and inches seem to disappear instantly from waist, hips and thighs. You can adjust it to your slimmed down figure as your figure changes. It gives the same fit and comfort you get from a made to order costing 2 or 3 times the price. It washes like a dream.

Style: Panty and regular. Colors: Nude and white. It's made of the finest stretch material used in any girdle, with a pure satin front panel and made by the most skilled craftsmen. It's light in weight, but powerfully strong. It won't roll up, bulge or curl at the top. It gives extra-double support where you need it most. No other girdle at any price can give you better support, can make you look better, feel better or appear slimmer. Sizes 24 to 44 waist. Only.....\$3.98



Your Appearance! Look and Feel Like Sixteen Again!

No other girdle or supporter belt has more hold-in power! The **Up-Lift Adjust-O-Belt** is the newest, most comfortable girdle I ever had.



You will look like and feel like this beautiful model in your new and improved Up-Lift Adjust-O-Belt.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE WITH A 10-DAY FREE TRIAL

If the **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT** isn't better than any supporter you ever had, if you don't feel more comfortable, if you don't look and feel younger, if your shape isn't 100% **IMPROVED**, if you are not delighted with it, return it and your money will be refunded in full.

FREE: New amazing **NYLON** laces will be sent free with your order. Try them instead of your regular laces. You may keep them **FREE** even if you return the girdle.

SEND NO MONEY

ADJUST-O-BELT CO., Dept. 199
1025 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey

Rush your new and improved **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT** for \$3.98 in size and style check.

- ☐ Regular. ☐ Panty.
☐ C.O.D. I will pay postage, plus handling.
☐ I enclose \$3.98. You pay postage, plus handling.
CHECK SIZE: ☐ Sm. (25-26). ☐ Med. (27-28).
☐ Lg. (29-30). ☐ XL (31-32). ☐ XXL (34-36).
☐ XXXL (38-40). ☐ XXXXL (42-44).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

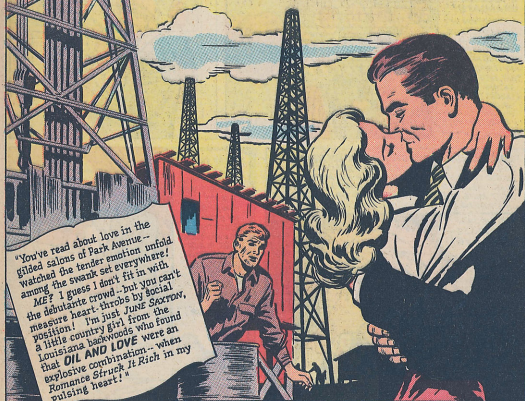
Zone _____

State _____

I understand if not delighted with the **UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT**, I can return it in 10 days for full purchase price refund.

SENT ON APPROVAL!

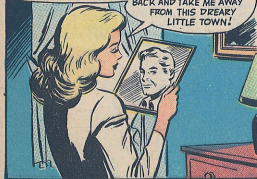
ROMANCE Strikes It Rich



"You've read about love in the gilded salons of Park Avenue-- watched the tender emotion unfold among the swank set everywhere! ME? I guess I don't fit in with the debutante crowd--but you can't measure heart-throbs by social position! I'm just JUNE SAXTON, a little country girl from the Louisiana backwoods who found that **OIL AND LOVE** were an explosive combination-- when **Romance Struck It Rich** in my pulsing heart!"

TODAY'S THE DAY -- **AFTER FOUR LONG, LONELY YEARS!** IF... IF ONLY STEVE HASN'T FORGOTTEN THOSE WONDERFUL WORDS HE WHISPERED TO ME BEFORE HE LEFT! IF ONLY HE KNEW HOW I'VE **LIVED** ON THOSE PROMISES, HOW I'VE WAITED FOR THE **ONLY BOY I'VE EVER LOVED** TO COME

BACK AND TAKE ME AWAY FROM THIS DREARY LITTLE TOWN!



--AWAY FROM ITS DRABNESS --AND INTO THE LAND OF ROMANCE! AND NOW THAT STEVE'S FINALLY GOT HIS GEOLOGY DEGREE, HE'S SURE TO BE OFFERED A GOOD JOB IN THE EAST! MAYBE WE'LL EVEN TRAVEL --MR. AND MRS. STEPHEN CARTER --ON

A PERPETUAL HONEYMOON!



"YES, IT WAS
A BIG DAY FOR
ME -- AND FOR
MARSHVILLE!

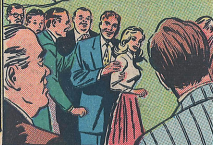
FOR THE FIRST
TIME IN YEARS, THE
TOWN I DESPISED
COULD BOAST OF
A **COLLEGE
GRADUATE!**

A RECEPTION IN
HIS HONOR WAS
BEING HELD
IMMEDIATELY
UPON HIS ARRIVAL--
AND IT WAS THERE
THAT, WITH PALPI-
TATING HEART,
I CAUGHT THE FIRST
GLIMPSE OF
MY CHILDHOOD
SWEETHEART!"

SAY, THERE --
PERFESSER!
HOW ABOUT A
SPEECH TELLIN'
US HOW TICKLED
YOU ARE TO BE
BACK IN GOOD
OLD MARSHVILLE?

LATER, MR. BLINKER!
RIGHT NOW, HOW ABOUT
GIVING ME A CHANCE
TO SAY HELLO TO
MY GIRL?

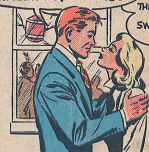
**MARSHVILLE
BOOSTERS
CLUB.**



**"A SECLUDED BALCONY -- AND TOGETHER,
AFTER THE LONELY YEARS!"**

JUNE, I --- I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH
I'VE **LONGED** FOR YOU, HOW I'VE
WAITED FOR THIS DAY! THE ONLY
THING THAT KEPT ME GOING WAS **MY
LOVE FOR YOU!** WE'VE BOTH WAITED
LONG ENOUGH --- **WILL YOU
MARRY ME, DARLING?**

OH, STEVE!
THE ANSWER
IS YES,
SWEETHEART
---YES!



"HOMECOMING -- FOR STEVE -- FOR MY HEART!
THIS WAS THE MOMENT I'D DREAMED OF-- THE
MAGIC MOMENT OF ECSTASY WHEN HIS ARMS WOULD
CLASP ME, HOLD ME TIGHT -- WHEN HIS LIPS WOULD
MEET MINE IN PASSIONATE PROMISE OF A GOLDEN
LIFE AHEAD!"

NO MORE --
LONELINESS--
JUST LOVE!



"SLEEP THAT
NIGHT WAS
SWEET, TENDER
--GLOWING WITH
HAPPY
VISIONS!
MY STEVE
WOULD TAKE
ME AWAY FROM
THIS PLACE
I HATED--
WE'D TRAVEL
TO
FAR-OFF,
EXOTIC
LANDS
TOGETHER!"



"BUT THE NEXT MORNING --"

YOU HAVEN'T
TOLD ME WHAT
BIG FIRM
YOU'VE SIGNED
UP WITH, DEAR!
I CAN'T WAIT
FOR US TO LEAVE
MARSHVILLE!

**LEAVE? BUT MARSHVILLE
IS OUR HOME--WE'RE GOING
TO SETTLE DOWN HERE! SURE,
IT ISN'T MUCH TO BRAG
ABOUT --- BUT I'VE GOT
BIG PLANS FOR THE TOWN!**
IT'S DESTINED FOR **GREAT
THINGS!** MY GEOLOGY
STUDIES HAVE CONVINCED
ME **THERE ARE RICH
DEPOSITS OF
OIL HERE!**



**"FATEFUL
WORDS -- LIKE
RIVERS OF ICE,
FREEZING ME TO
THE CORE!
WHERE WERE MY
HOPES, MY DREAMS
OF ROMANCE
IN FAR-OFF
PLACES?"**

**NO--
NOT HERE!
I HAD
TO TALK
HIM OUT
OF IT!

I
HAD
TO!"**

OIL -- IN THIS GODFORSAKEN PLACE?
WHY, THE BEST PETROLEUM ENGINEERS
IN THE **COUNTRY** IGNORED THIS
TERRITORY -- **THEY KNEW**

THERE WASN'T A
THIMBLEFUL OF
OIL ANYWHERE
NEAR HERE! THIS
WILL **ALWAYS**
BE A DEAD
TOWN -- JUST AS
OUR LOVE WOULD
STAGNATE AND
DIE IN THESE
SWAMPS!

**BUT I'M
CONVINCED MY
CALCULATIONS ARE
RIGHT! WHO KNOWS
THIS AREA BETTER
THAN I? -- AND MY
JUDGMENT CAN'T BE
OFF! THERE'S OIL
HERE!**



"A COLD FURY GRIPPED ME AT HIS STUBBORNNESS! HELPLESS OF THE BRUTAL IMPACT OF MY FLAMING WORDS, I CRIED OUT--"

IF YOU THINK MORE OF YOUR STUPID DAYDREAMS THAN OF OUR LIFE, GO AHEAD, STEVE CARTER! OIL AND WATER DON'T MIX, **AND NEITHER DO LOVE AND MARSHVILLE! YOU CAN TAKE YOUR CHOICE!**

IF-IF THAT'S REALLY THE WAY YOU WANT IT, I'M AFRAID IT'LL HAVE TO BE **MARSHVILLE!** BUT YOU'LL SEE HOW **WRONG** YOU ARE-- WHEN I COME BACK FROM BATON ROUGE WITH THE FINANCIAL BACKING FOR AN OIL WELL THAT'LL MAKE **MILLIONAIRES** OUT OF US-- AND A **BOOMING CITY** OUT OF MARSHVILLE!

"A WEEK LATER --"

OIL IN MARSHVILLE?-- HAW! -- WHAT A LAUGH! THERE'S NOT ENOUGH OIL AROUND THERE TO FILL A CIGARETTE LIGHTER!

BAYOU OIL CO.

WHAT ASYLUM DID YOU ESCAPE FROM? WHY, I'D RATHER TRY MILKING A STONE THAN TRY GETTING OIL FROM THAT MARSHVILLE MUD!

YOU'RE THE LAST PROMOTER ON MY LIST, MR. REDMOND! I FEEL AS IF I'M LETTING DOWN ALL THE TOWNSPEOPLE... THEY'D DO **ANYTHING** TO PUT MARSHVILLE ON THE MAP-- AND AN OIL DISCOVERY WOULD CERTAINLY DO THE TRICK!

REDMOND OIL ENTERPRISES

ANYTHING, EH? HMM-- LET ME SEE THOSE CALCULATIONS OF YOURS AGAIN! IS MARSHVILLE A--ER--**PROSPEROUS** TOWN?

WELL, I GUESS SOME OF THE FOLKS HAVE MONEY--AND EVERYONE IN TOWN IS A MARSHVILLE **BOOSTER!** THERE'S NOTHING THEY WOULDN'T DO TO --

REDMOND OIL ENTERPRISES

HMM, ON SECOND THOUGHT, THERE **MIGHT** BE OIL IN THAT TERRITORY! AS A MATTER OF FACT, IF YOUR SURVEY IS RIGHT, THE MARSHVILLE DEPOSITS MIGHT YIELD MILLIONS OF BARRELS! YOU'VE GOT A **REAL FIND** HERE-- I'LL BE GLAD TO HANDLE THE PROMOTION AND FINANCING FOR YOU!

"AND SO ---"

WITH THE DEEPEST SINCERITY, FOLKS, LET ME TELL YOU THAT IN ALL MY YEARS IN THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, I'VE NEVER SENSED GREATER NATURAL OIL POTENTIALITIES THAN YOU'VE GOT **RIGHT HERE IN MARSHVILLE!**

--AND IT'S YOUR GREAT GOOD FORTUNE TO POSSESS A NATIVE SON WHO HAD THE FORESIGHT AND THE BRILLIANCE THAT WILL **PUT MARSHVILLE ON THE MAP--AND MAKE ALL OF YOU MILLIONAIRES!**

'RAY, STEVIE! THAT'S OUR BOY!

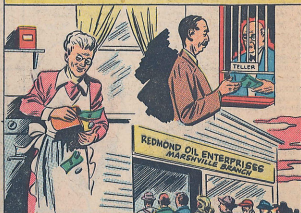
YES -- **MILLIONAIRES** --- BECAUSE IT'S ONLY FAIR THAT I LET ALL OF YOU GOOD CITIZENS SHARE IN THE GREAT NATURAL WEALTH OF YOUR OWN COMMUNITY! I HAPPEN TO BE INDEPENDENTLY WEALTHY, OIL PROMOTIONS BEING MERELY A HOBBY OF MINE--AND SO ALTHOUGH I COULD PUT UP THE FUNDS FOR THIS ENTERPRISE, I'M GOING TO LET ALL OF YOU INVEST IN IT TO YOUR **HEARTS' CONTENT!**

THREE CHEERS FOR THOMAS REDMOND!

YIPPEE! I'LL SINK EVERY CENT I HAVE IN MARSHVILLE OIL!

PUT ME DOWN FOR \$2,000 WORTH!

"WITHIN A FEW HOURS, AN INCREDIBLE FRENZY SWEEPED THROUGH THE TOWN! LIFETIME SAVINGS WERE WITHDRAWN AND A MAD SCRAMBLE BEGAN -- WITH EVERYONE TRYING TO INVEST MORE THAN HIS NEIGHBOR!"

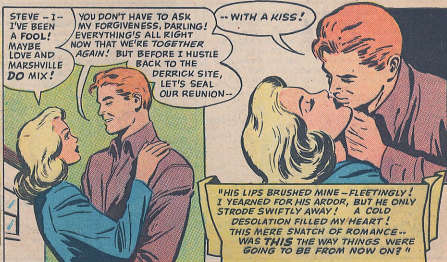


"THE CONTAGION CAUGHT ME--SWEEPED ME ALONG IN ITS TUMULTUOUS WAKE! I BEGAN TO SEE THAT LIFE IN MARSHVILLE COULD BE EXCITING--THAT STEVE HAD BEEN RIGHT ALL ALONG!"

STEVE -- I-- I'VE BEEN A FOOL! MAYBE LOVE AND MARSHVILLE DO MIX!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ASK MY FORGIVENESS, DARLING! EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT NOW THAT WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN! BUT BEFORE I HUSTLE BACK TO THE DERRICK SITE, LET'S SEAL OUR REUNION--

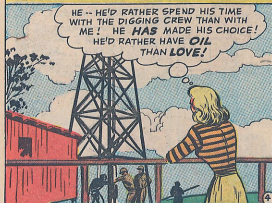
-- WITH A KISS!



"HIS LIPS BRUSHED MINE -- FLEETINGLY! I YEARNED FOR HIS ARDOR, BUT HE ONLY STRODE SWIFTLY AWAY! A COLD DESOLATION FILLED MY HEART! THIS MERE SNATCH OF ROMANCE... WAS **THIS** THE WAY THINGS WERE GOING TO BE FROM NOW ON?"

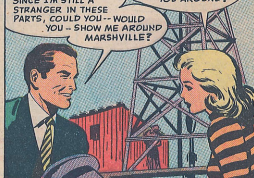
"IT WAS! IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, I CAUGHT BUT MERE GLIMPSES OF MY LOVE AS HE SUPERVISED THE DIGGING! AND AS THE DERRICK BEGAN STRETCHING SKYWARD, MY HEARTSICK LONELINESS SWELLED WITH IT!"

HE -- HE'D RATHER SPEND HIS TIME WITH THE DIGGING CREW THAN WITH ME! HE **HAS** MADE HIS CHOICE! HE'D RATHER HAVE **OIL** THAN LOVE!



HELLO, THERE! I COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE SUCH A LOVELY ADDITION TO THESE UGLY DIGGINGS THE LAST FEW WEEKS! I WAS WONDERING -- SINCE I'M STILL A STRANGER IN THESE PARTS, COULD YOU -- WOULD YOU -- SHOW ME AROUND MARSHVILLE?

WHY... WHY, YOU'RE SCARCELY A **STRANGER** ANYMORE, MR. REDMOND! **EVERYONE** IN TOWN KNOWS YOU -- I'D BE **GLAD** TO SHOW YOU AROUND!



"IT ALL
STARTED
ON THAT WALK!
I'D NEVER
KNOWN A
MAN LIKE
HANDSOME,
DEBONAIR
THOMAS
REDMOND!
HE
CAPTIVATED
ME -- FOR, BY
COMPARISON,
STEVE
SEEMED
CRUDE ...
PLAIN ..."

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW
HAPPY YOUR COMPANY'S
MADE ME, MISS SAXTON!
WHY DON'T WE
CONTINUE THIS
AFTER LUNCH --
AND THEN A
DRIVE,
PERHAPS --?

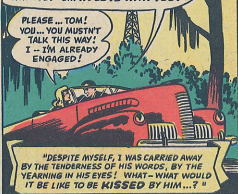
I ... I'D LIKE TO
... VERY MUCH!
I DON'T THINK
MY FIANCÉ,
MR. CARTER, WOULD
MIND, SINCE HE'S
SO BUSY ... AND
SINCE YOU'VE
DONE SO MUCH
FOR THE TOWN!



"THERE WERE MANY MEETINGS --
MANY DRIVES -- THEN ..."

JUNE -- I MUST TELL YOU THIS! YOU'VE
FASCINATED ME EVER SINCE I FIRST
SAW YOU! I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU!

PLEASE ... TOM!
YOU ... YOU MUSTN'T
TALK THIS WAY!
I -- I'M ALREADY
ENGAGED!



"DESPITE MYSELF, I WAS CARRIED AWAY
BY THE TENDERNESS OF HIS WORDS, BY THE
YEARNING IN HIS EYES! WHAT -- WHAT WOULD
IT BE LIKE TO BE KISSED BY HIM ...?"

WHY -- WHY, THAT'S JUNE!
I COULDN'T MISTAKE HER
HAIR -- OR THAT FLASHY
CONVERTIBLE
OF REDMOND'S!



"TOM'S KISS
WAS STIRRING--
THRILLED ME
THROUGH AND
THROUGH! BUT
STEVE WAS
MY MAN! ...
I COULDN'T
DECEIVE HIM!
REMORSEFULLY,
I RETURNED
HOME,
DETERMINED
NEVER TO SEE
TOM AGAIN,
AND TO CONFESS
WHAT HAD
HAPPENED TO
STEVE! BUT AN
HOUR LATER ..."

YOU LITTLE SNEAK!
DON'T TRY TO DENY
WHAT HAPPENED!
I SAW YOU
KISSING
REDMOND!

WHY, YOU --
YOU! I WAS
GOING TO EXPLAIN
-- BUT YOU WOULDN'T
HAVE THE MIND -- OR
THE HEART -- TO
UNDERSTAND
ANYTHING!



IF YOU'RE NOT SURE OF MY LOVE, IT'S
BECAUSE YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THE
MEANING OF THE WORD! I WOULDN'T
MARRY A MAN WITH YOUR JEALOUS
SUSPICIONS FOR ALL THE OIL IN THE
WORLD! YOU CAN GO BACK TO
THAT OIL WELL OF YOURS -- AND
TAKE YOUR RING
WITH YOU!



"IT WAS THE
END OF MY WORLD,
THAT SHATTERED
ROMANCE WHICH
PLUNGED ME INTO
AN ABYSS OF HEART-
BROKEN GRIEF!
TO SOOTHE THE
ACHING BITTERNESS
IN MY HEART, I
TURNED TO THE MAN
WHOSE KISS HAD
SO INFLAMED ME!
AND AS WE SHARED
EACH OTHER'S COMPANY,
A STRONG BOND
OF TENDERNESS
GREW BETWEEN
THOMAS REDMOND
AND ME!"



"THE DAYS
FLEW BY --
THE OIL WELL
SHAFT SANK
DEEPER
AND DEEPER --
INTO
DRY
EARTH!
AND
PEOPLE
BEGAN
ASKING
QUESTIONS!"

YOU SAID YOU'D
STRIKE OIL AT
A THOUSAND
FEET, STEVE!
YOU'RE **PAST**
THAT -- **AN'**
WHERE'S
THE OIL?

WELL, I MIGHT HAVE
BEEN A LITTLE OFF IN
MY CALCULATIONS!
JUST HAVE A LITTLE
PATIENCE, FOLKS --
WE'RE **SURE** TO
STRIKE IT BY
1500 FEET!



"I FOUND MYSELF EXULTING AT STEVE'S FAILURE!
AND AS HIS HURT GLANCE SWEEPED THE CROWD,
I TURNED MY BACK ON HIM, ALONG WITH THE
OTHERS!"

I'VE **STILL** GOT
CONFIDENCE IN
THE WELL! IT'LL
JUST TAKE A
LITTLE MORE
TIME --

YEAH -- **YOU** GOT
CONFIDENCE -- BUT
THE COMPANY'S GOT
OUR MONEY!
WISH I HAD
IT BACK!



TOM, THE TOWNSPEOPLE
WERE IN AN UGLY MOOD
OUT AT THE DIGGINGS
TODAY! THEY ALL
EXPECTED RESULTS
LONG BEFORE
THIS!

HMMM -- WELL, I'D
LIKE TO GO OUT
AND REASSURE THEM,
BUT UNFORTUNATELY,
I'VE JUST RECEIVED AN
URGENT WIRE CALLING
ME TO **NEW YORK!**
LOOK, DARLING -- HOW
ABOUT MAKING IT A
HONEYMOON
AT THE SAME
TIME?



OH, TOM, I ... I DON'T KNOW...

WILL -- **THIS**
HELP MAKE UP
YOUR MIND?



"IT **DID!**

THE CARESSING
TENDERNESS OF
HIS KISS TOLD
ME ALL I WANTED
TO KNOW --

THAT **HERE** WAS
A MAN WHOSE
LOVE I COULD BE
CERTAIN OF --
WHO WOULD
CHERISH
ME FOR ALL
THE DAYS OF MY
LIFE! SURELY
I HAD FOUND
MY **TRUE** LOVE
IN THE STRONG
ARMS OF
THOMAS
REDMOND!"

WHY -- WHY DID
I HESITATE?
OF **COURSE**
I'LL MARRY YOU --
WE'LL GO TO
NEW YORK --
AWAY FROM
MARSHVILLE!
THEN MAYBE WE CAN
SEE THE -- THE FAR-OFF
EXOTIC LANDS
TOGETHER!

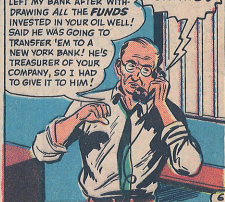
WHY **NOT?** HURRY
HOME AND PACK --
WHILE I DRAW SOME
TRAVELING FUNDS
OUT OF THE BANK! I'LL
PICK YOU UP AS SOON
AS IT GETS DARK!



"A HALF HOUR LATER --"

STEVE? -- GLAD I FOUND
YOU IN! SOMETHING FUNNY
GOING ON -- REDMOND JUST
LEFT MY BANK AFTER WITH-
DRAWING ALL THE **FUNDS**
INVESTED IN YOUR OIL WELL!
SAID HE WAS GOING TO
TRANSFER 'EM TO A
NEW YORK BANK! HE'S
TREASURER OF YOUR
COMPANY, SO I HAD
TO GIVE IT TO HIM!

WHA -- ?
THANKS! I'D
BETTER DO SOME
INVESTI-
GATING!



OPERATOR... I WANT TO PLACE TWO LONG DISTANCE CALLS! GET ME THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN BATON ROUGE... AND THEN CONNECT ME WITH THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU!



"AS DARKNESS FELL, THE EXCITEMENT OF MY COMING ELOPEMENT FILLED MY HEART WITH RAPTUREOUS ELATION!

AT LAST I WAS LEAVING MARSHVILLE... FOR A LIFE OF GLAMOR AND ROMANCE!"

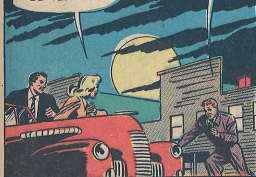
HURRY, DARLING -- WE SHOULD HAVE LEFT BEFORE THIS!

STOP! NOT SO FAST, REDMOND!



STEVE! -- WELL, THIS IS ONE THING YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BREAK UP! YOU CAN JUST EAT YOUR HEART OUT WITH JEALOUSY, BECAUSE YOU LOST OUT TO A BETTER MAN!

A BETTER SWINDLER, YOU MEAN!



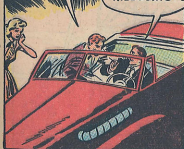
LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS MAN YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY WITH! HE'S A PHONY OIL-WELL PROMOTER -- ARRESTED SEVERAL TIMES FOR TALKING PEOPLE INTO INVESTING MONEY -- AND THEN STEALING IT!

OH, NO... NO! I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT!



NO? THEN WHY'S HE SO ANXIOUS TO MAKE HIS GETAWAY NOW? -- I'LL HOLD HIM HERE -- YOU GO AFTER THE SHERIFF! HE WENT TO THE HOTEL -- BUT I PLAYED A HUNCH AND HEADED HERE!

WHY, YOU MEDDLING--!



THIS'LL TEACH YOU!

OH!!



"THE BLOW THAT STRUCK STEVE BROKE MY HEART INTO A THOUSAND ANGUISHED PIECES! I HAD PLACED MY TRUST IN A MAN WHOSE WORDS OF LOVE WERE DOUBTLESS AS FALSE AS HIS SCHEMING TRICKS!"

I WOULD HIDE THE MONEY IN MY HOTEL ROOM -- JUST WHERE THE SHERIFF'S WAITING FOR ME! I'LL HAVE TO GET OUT OF TOWN AND LIE LOW FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS UNTIL IT ALL BLOWS OVER-- AND THEN SNEAK BACK FOR THE DOUGH!



"WHEN NEWS OF TOM'S FLIGHT SPREAD THROUGH THE TOWN -- AND AN ANGRY MOB SOON GATHERED ..."

SO THE WHOLE THING WAS A SWINDLE, EH? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S TO BLAME, STEVE CARTER -- EVEN THOUGH IT WAS REDMOND WHO RAN AWAY WITH THE MONEY!

I... I'VE LOST EVERY CENT I HAD! HOW MUCH DID YOU MAKE ON THE SWINDLE?



LISTEN TO ME, ALL OF YOU! REDMOND TOOK EVERY CENT I HAD, TOO -- **BUT I'M STILL NOT GIVING UP!** I KNOW THERE'S OIL IN THAT GROUND -- AND I'M GOING TO MORTGAGE MY HOME AND EVERYTHING I'VE GOT TO **CONTINUE DIGGING!** WHEN THAT WELL COMES IN, I SWEAR YOU'LL ALL GET EVERY DIME BACK!

G'WAN -- WE'RE THROUGH BEIN' SUCKERS!



"HEAVEN HELP ME, FOR I, TOO, WAS ONE OF THOSE WHO MOCKED AND SCORNEO STEVE CARTER!

I TRIED TO MAKE MYSELF BELIEVE THAT IT WAS BECAUSE MY FATHER HAD LOST HIS ALL IN THIS ILL-FATED VENTURE -- BUT IT WAS MORE THAN THAT! FOR STEVE HAD WITNESSED MY BETRAYAL AND HUMILIATION -- AND I HATED HIM FOR IT!"

HE'S DOWN TO 1600 FEET NOW -- AN' STILL NO OIL!

IT'S A DRY HOLE! ALREADY THEY'RE CALLIN' IT CARTER'S FOLLY -- AND HE'S EVEN HAVIN' TROUBLE KEEPIN' MEN ON THE JOB!



ALL I CAN PAY YOU IS HALF WAGES -- I CAN'T RAISE ANOTHER CENT! BUT YOU'VE GOT TO STAY ON THE JOB -- IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO GET BACK THE MONEY MANY OF YOU MEN INVESTED YOURSELVES!

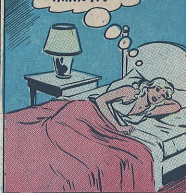
OKAY, CARTER -- WE'LL GIVE YOU ONE MORE WEEK!



"THE WEARY DAYS WORE ON! SLEEPLESS, GAUNT, HOLLOW-EYED, STEVE STUCK TO HIS GUNS!

WITH COURAGE AND TENACITY -- IN THE FACE OF THE PITILESS SCORN THE WHOLE TOWN HEAPED ON HIM!"

HOW -- HOW CAN I ADMIRE HIM -- AND HATE HIM AT THE SAME TIME? CAN IT BE THAT -- I DON'T HATE HIM? MAYBE I -- NO! I WON'T LET MYSELF THINK IT!

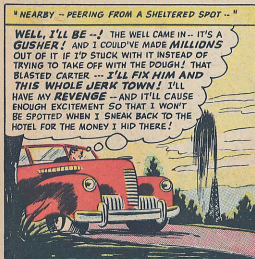
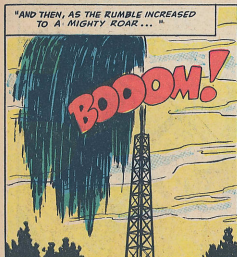
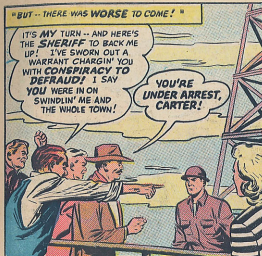


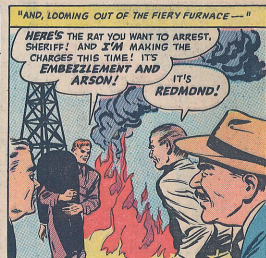
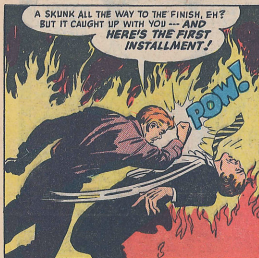
"THEN FINALLY IT CAME -- REBELLION AT THE OIL SHAFT -- STEVE'S DARKEST MOMENT!"

BUT YOU GUYS CAN'T WALK OUT ON ME! NOT NOW, WHEN WE'RE SO CLOSE --

OH, CAN'T WE? WE'VE HEARD THAT OLD STORY OF YOURS BEFORE, AND WE'RE SICK OF IT! NO PAY -- NO WORK!







"I HAD GONE TO FIND STEVE, CONGRATULATE HIM, BEG HIS FORGIVENESS! FOR MY HEART HAD SURGED WITH A WILD, SUDDEN JOY AT HIS TRIUMPH AND VINDICATION-- AND I KNEW THEN THAT ONLY A MAN AMONG MEN COULD HAVE FOUGHT SUCH ODDS--AND CONQUERED! I HAD PERMITTED SPITE TO BLIND ME TO MY TRUE FEELING FOR HIM! AND THEN, SUDDENLY, CAME THAT WILD SURGE OF FLAME--AND RAPTURE VANISHED BEFORE RUSHING DOOM! I MUST HAVE FAINTED--BUT THE NEXT THING I KNEW--"

JUNE!

OH, STEVE! YOU--YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME FOR ME! TRY... TO GET OUT... YOURSELF! I'D ONLY HINDER YOU!

DON'T TALK... JUST KEEP YOUR HEAD AGAINST MY CHEST-- AND TRY TO HOLD YOUR BREATH!

"MY HEART WENT OUT TO HIM WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF MY LOVE! FOR EVEN IF WE DIDN'T MAKE IT, AT LEAST I WOULD DIE IN THE ARMS OF THE ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD!"

HE MADE IT! HE SAVED HER!

WHAT A MAN!

"YES, WHAT A MAN... BUT HE WOULD NEVER BE MINE! FOR HOW COULD I CONFESS MY OVERWHELMING LOVE FOR HIM -- NOW?

HE'D DOUBTED IT ONCE BEFORE -- AND I COULDN'T STAND THE PAIN OF HAVING IT DOUBTED AGAIN!"

I... I... THANKS, STEVE! I'M ALL RIGHT NOW... I CAN GET HOME MYSELF ---

JUNIE... IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY-- THAT I LOVE YOU? ALL RIGHT, I DO! YOU WON'T BELIEVE ME ANYWAY, JUST BECAUSE I WAS SUCH A FOOL ABOUT REDMOND! YOU'LL NEVER FORGIVE ME -- YOU'LL KEEP ON DOUBTING ME --

DARLING -- I'D BE THE FOOL IF I DIDN'T FORGIVE YOU -- AND ASK YOUR FORGIVENESS FOR MY SUSPICIONS! THAT FIRE TAUGHT ME I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU --

--- AS MY WIFE!

OH, STEVE... MY OWN ---

"AND WITH HIS LIPS SEARINGLY, RAPTUREOUSLY PRESSED AGAINST MINE, I KNEW THAT NOTHING, NOT EVEN AN OIL WELL, WOULD EVER COME BETWEEN US AGAIN! FOR, THOUGH WELLS MAY RUN DRY, MY HEART WAS A BOTTOMLESS FOUNTAIN OF LOVE-- FOR THE MAN I ADORED!"

THE END

MONEY *isn't* EVERYTHING

"It's not fair. it's not fair!" Marian told herself bitterly. "She's using him! She doesn't love him, she loves his money. I love him!"

Time and again, Marian had spoken to herself like this. Time and again, she had shed tears over Bob Tonner, who was her roommate's property, who had gone with Lynn long before Marian had moved into the three-room apartment they now shared. But she continued to break her heart, hopelessly, against the rocks of despair.

"Sure, Bob's got plenty of dough and keeps right on making it!" Lynn had often shed her feminine allure and charm after Bob had said goodnight.

"But it's *wrong*!" Marian once tried to protest. "Don't you see, Lynn? You're fooling him, tricking him! It's not fair!"

"Fair to him or to me?" Lynn had laughed. "Look, cookie, stay out of my love life and I'll stay out of yours!"

"But I *can't* stay out of Lynn's love life," Marian sobbed, as alone in the bedroom, she began to fold her clothes, neatly, automatically. "Bob's *my* love life and I haven't the right to him. I'd better get out of here, before I say too much!"

She had decided to move, to stop torturing herself by these fleeting visions of Bob. Often he had urged her to join them, had looked at her with warmth. Sometimes, she had felt that Bob had really wanted her company, that he was trying to tell her so . . . without words.

"That was wishful thinking," Marian said aloud. She continued to fold her cloths, placing them in a suitcase in careful stacks. She heard the doorbell ring and knew it was Bob, but she did not go out to greet him. This was going to be a clean break. Vague-

ly, she heard the murmur of voices in the living room, low-pitched. And then, suddenly, there was Lynn's voice, shrill with disbelief.

"You're crazy, Bob. I don't believe you! Is it true? Is it *really* true?"

Bob's voice, louder now, and resonant. "It's true, Lynn. I've lost every cent. I'll have to start all over again. I knew you'd understand and stick by me."

Lynn's voice again, shriller, hard. "Stick by you? For *what*? You're a dead loss to me, Bob!"

Marian's heart swelled with love and . . . anger. She was not thinking clearly as she ran into the living room, only feeling deeply what she must say to comfort Bob. "I'm glad it happened!" she cried. "I'm *glad* for you, Bob! It's so much better this way!"

She stopped suddenly, a hot blush of shame and confusion rising over her throat and face. She had unwittingly confessed her love to a man who did not want her. Marian buried her blushing face in her hands.

"If you're glad, I am too, darling!" that was Bob's voice, tenderly near. Somehow, Marian found herself in Bob's arms, her face hidden against his chest as he murmured to her, "I've wanted this for a long time, Marian. But I couldn't do anything to make you see it! I was desperate. . . until I thought of pretending I was broke. That was my little test, for which I'm sure Lynn *won't* forgive me!"

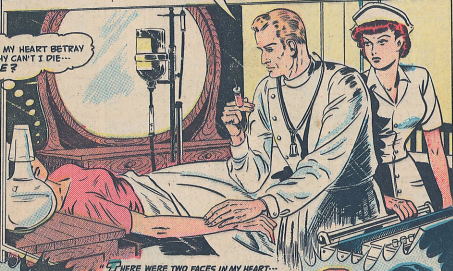
It was Lynn's turn to blush, not the rosy blush of shy embarrassment, but the hard, red, mottled blush of rage and frustration. She had lost in this little game of hers, and it was hard to take. Silently, she walked out of the room.

Marian and Bob, in each others' arms, did not notice her.

TWO-FACED HEART

WE...WE SHOULD HAVE NEVER LET HER SEE THAT MIRROR! HOW WILL SHE EVER KNOW PEACE OF MIND...NOW?

I...I LET MY HEART BETRAY ME! OH, WHY CAN'T I DIE...DIE?



"THERE WERE TWO FACES IN MY HEART... WHICH SHOULD I CHOOSE? THAT WAS THE SOUL-SEARING PROBLEM WHICH FACED ME, HELENA GLAMOUR...QUEEN OF TELEVISION! AND I--I HAD TWO FACES TOO! THERE WAS THE ONE OF BREATHTAKING BEAUTY WHICH CATAPULTE ME TO THE HEIGHTS OF GLITTERING FAME--AND THE ONE OF TRAGIC HORROR WHICH PLUNNETED ME TO THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR! IT'S A STORY OF SACRED AND PROFANE LOVE, SO HEAR WHAT HAPPENED TO ME, READER--AND LEARN FROM IT!"



"THE TOUCH OF A NEEDLE... AND A FITFUL SLEEP OVERTOOK ME OUT OF THE PAST CAME MEMORIES...HOW IT ALL BEGAN ON THAT DAY IN TOLEDO--AN UNKNOWN GIRL NAMED HELEN DAWSON..."

MISS, I WANT YOU TO ANSWER A QUESTION! DO YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES WHEN YOU'RE KISSED?

WELL, OF ALL THE NERVE!



DON'T GET ANGRY...IT'S JUST A SIMPLE LITTLE QUESTION! DO YOU OR DON'T YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES WHEN...

A WISE GUY, EH? TAKE THAT!



MISS, YOU'VE JUST MADE TELEVISION HISTORY! I'M CARRYING A CONCEALED MIKE--AND I'VE HAD A TELEVISION CAMERA TRAINED ON YOU ALL THE WHILE WE WERE TALKING!

YOU MEAN...?



UN-HUN! AND THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN SLAPPED IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA, THAT IS! I'M GLAD IT WAS BY THE PRETTIEST GAL WE EVER HAD ON THE SHOW! WHAT'S YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, SISTER?

WHY... I'M...
HELEN DAWSON!
371 GARFIELD STREET!



I HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW THE HAND OF FATE WAS MOVING! NEARBY...

IF I DON'T COME UP WITH AN IDEA SOON, **LOVELY SOAP** IS GOING TO TOSSE ME OUT ON MY EAR! OH, WELL, I'LL KNOCK OFF FOR A FEW MINUTES AND SEE WHAT'S DOING ON TELEVISION!



WOW, IS SHE EVER LOVELY! FRESH... NATURAL... WHY, SHE LOOKS AS THOUGH SHE JUST STEPPED OUT OF A NICE, COOL BATH!



LOVELY GIRL! COOL BATH! **LOVELY SOAP!**... THAT'S MY GIMMICK! IF I CAN GET THAT GAL TO TAKE A BUBBLE BATH ON TELEVISION, USING **LOVELY SOAP**... WHAT A COMMERCIAL!



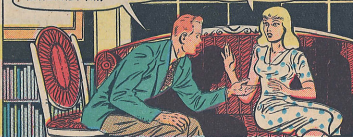
"FATE... FOR THAT NIGHT I HAD A CALLER..."

I'M **JOE BANCROFT**... ADVERTISING MAN! I'VE BEEN RETAINED BY **LOVELY SOAP**, MY LARGEST ACCOUNT, ON THE CONDITION THAT I INCREASE THEIR SALES 50% IN 6 WEEKS! IT'S A TALL ORDER, BUT I'VE GOT TO DO IT!

BUT WHAT DOES ALL THIS HAVE TO DO WITH ME?



PLENTY! YOU'RE MY GIMMICK... ALL YOU'VE GOT TO DO IS TAKE A BUBBLE BATH ON TELEVISION... USING **LOVELY SOAP!** I SAW YOU ON HIDDEN CAMERA... AND WITH YOUR BEAUTY, THIS WOULD BE A NATURAL! WHY...

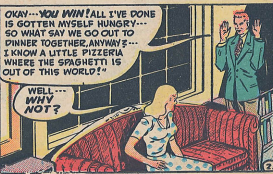


ME... TAKE A BATH ON TELEVISION?... NOTHING DOING! MY ONE APPEARANCE ON TELEVISION WAS EMBARRASSING ENOUGH! WHY, YOU MUST BE CRAZY!

"HAND IT TO BANCROFT... HE COULD ARGUE CONVINCINGLY! AND HE WAS LIKABLE, ATTRACTIVE! BUT HE COULDN'T BUDGE ME AN INCH!"

OKAY... YOU WIN! ALL I'VE DONE IS GOTTEN MYSELF HUNGRY... SO WHAT SAY WE GO OUT TO DINNER TOGETHER, ANYWAY?... I KNOW A LITTLE PIZZERIA WHERE THE SPAGHETTI IS OUT OF THIS WORLD!

WELL... WHY NOT?



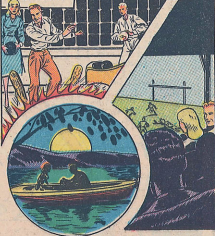
"FUNNY...JOE BANCROFT WAS A STRANGER TO ME...YET IT WAS AS IF I'D KNOWN HIM FOR YEARS!"

I'M HAVING A SWELL TIME...AND IS THIS STUFF GOOD!

HEY, TONY! MORE SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALLS... THE LADY IS EATING ME UNDER THE TABLE!



"YES, IT WAS OUR FIRST DATE... THE FIRST OF MANY!"



"IT WAS WITH A START THAT I FOUND MYSELF COUNTING THE HOURS UNTIL JOE AND I WOULD BE TOGETHER AGAIN! HE WAS LATE ONE NIGHT... I HAD A STRANGE, LOST FEELING UNTIL..."

JOE! ANYTHING... WRONG?

PLENTY!... SALES OF LOVELY SOAP ARE DOWN 20%... AND THE BIG BOSS IS BREATHING DOWN MY NECK! I'LL LOSE MY LARGEST ACCOUNT UNLESS A MIRACLE STRIKES... AND SOON!



"HE WAS PATHETIC IN HIS UNHAPPINESS... I, TOO, FELT FORLORN! I KNEW THEN HOW MUCH HE MEANT TO ME...AND SUDDENLY, LIKE A TRIPHAMMER, CAME THE PERFECT SOLUTION!"



YOU'RE LOOKING AT THAT MIRACLE RIGHT NOW, JOE! BRING ON THE BUBBLE BATH! I'LL DO IT... FOR YOU!

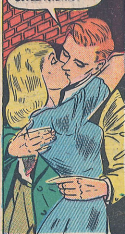
FOR... ME?



"OUR EYES MET... CLUNG! THEN, AS IN A DREAM, I FELT HIS STRONG ARMS ENCLOSE ME! HIS LIPS FOUND MINE... TENDER, COMPELLING! MY HEART POUNDED WILDLY TO A NEW RHYTHM: THIS IS LOVE... THIS IS LOVE... THIS IS LOVE!"



I LOVE YOU... SWEETHEART...



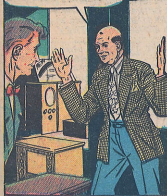
"YES, MY LOVE FOR JOE CONQUERED ALL DOUBTS, BRAVELY, I FACED THE TELEVISION CAMERAS... AND IN HOMES EVERYWHERE..."

LOOK FRESH AND LOVELY! USE LOVELY SOAP!



"THE NEW LOVELY SOAP TELEVISION COMMERCIAL CAUSED AN INSTANT SENSATION! AMERICA WAS ELECTRIFIED... FROM COAST TO COAST..."

LOOK, I WANT TO EXCHANGE MY 10-INCH SET FOR ONE WITH A 16-INCH SCREEN!



GIVE ME 15 MORE CAKES OF THAT LOVELY SOAP! IF IT CAN MAKE ME LOOK LIKE THAT GIRL ON TELEVISION, I'LL EVEN EAT IT!



INCREDIBLE! LOVELY SOAP IS NOW 79¢! NOW 10¢! NOW 13¢ AND STILL GOING UP!



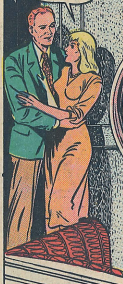
MEANWHILE, IN THE LOVELY SOAP OFFICES... PANDEMONIUM!

JOE, YOU'VE DONE IT! WE---WE CAN'T MAKE THE SOAP FAST ENOUGH TO SUPPLY ORDERS! MIAMI WANTS 40,000 MORE CAKES---AND SEATTLE SAYS THE WOMEN WILL RIOT UNLESS WE SEND 60,000 IMMEDIATELY! SALES ARE UP 340%... AND RISING!

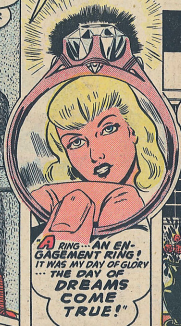


I---I OWE IT ALL TO YOU, KID! I KNOW YOU DIDN'T WANT TO MAKE A SPECTACLE OF YOURSELF THAT WAY---THAT YOU DID IT FOR ME!

BETTER SAY FOR OUR LOVE, DARLING!



THEN HERE'S SOMETHING ELSE...FOR OUR LOVE!



"A RING...AN ENGAGEMENT RING! IT WAS MY DAY OF GLORY... THE DAYS OF DREAMS COME TRUE!"

"THE TEARS IN MY EYES...THEY WERE TEARS OF HAPPINESS! THEN, BREAKING THE HUSH OF THIS MOMENT OF RAPTURE...A STRIDENT SOUND!"



IT'S...THE DOOR-BELL, JOE!

MISS DAWSON, I SAW YOU ON TELEVISION, AND I THINK YOU'VE GOT A FUTURE! WHAT WE NEED IS YOUR FRESH, VITAL, UNSPOILED BEAUTY! I WANT YOU TO COME TO NEW YORK IMMEDIATELY...YOU'LL STAR ON A NATIONAL TELEVISION PROGRAM! WELL, WHAT DO YOU SAY?

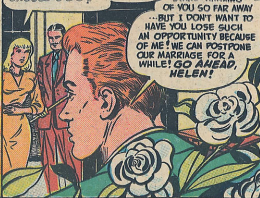


I-I DON'T KNOW!

"WHAT COULD I SAY? I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE MY BELOVED JOE...AND YET...A VISTA OF GLAMOUR AND FAME HAD BEEN OPENED TO ME...AND I THRILLED TO ITS GOLDEN PROMISE!"

JOE, WE'RE GOING TO BE MARRIED SOON...SO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THIS, TOO! WHAT SHOULD I DO?

I-I DON'T KNOW EITHER, DARLING! I CAN'T STAND THINKING OF YOU SO FAR AWAY...BUT I DON'T WANT TO HAVE YOU LOSE SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY BECAUSE OF ME! WE CAN POSTPONE OUR MARRIAGE FOR A WHILE! GO AHEAD, HELEN!



"THEY CHANGED MY NAME TO HELENA GLAMOUR...HAD ME SIGN CONTRACTS! I WAS STILL IN A DAZE, TREMBLING AS I STOOD BEFORE THE CAMERAS IN NEW YORK CITY ON MY TELEVISION DEBUT! I KEPT MY EYES GLUED TO THE CRITICS WHO SAT IN THE FRONT ROW...AND MY HEART STARTED POUNDING AS I REALIZED A MIRACLE HAD HAPPENED...THEY LIKED ME!"

THE FIRST WOMAN WHOSE BEAUTY LENDS ITSELF COMPLETELY TO TELEVISION!

HOW EASILY SHE PROJECTS THAT FRESH, UNSPOILED LOVELINESS! SHE'S WONDERFUL!



NOW...GET A LOAD OF THIS!...YOU ARE THE ANSWER TO THE PRAYERS OF MILLIONS OF TELEVIEWERS! A NEW STAR IS BORN! CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO YOU!"

MORE TELEGRAMS, MISS GLAMOUR!



"SUCCESS... THE ANSWER TO A DREAM I HADN'T EVEN DARED DREAM! THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING MISSING...JOE! I HAD TO SHARE MY JOY WITH HIM..."

THEY LIKED ME, JOE!... OH, HOW I WISH YOU WERE HERE TO SHARE MY HAPPINESS, DARLING!



CONGRATULATIONS... I SAW YOU ON THE TELEVISION AND YOU WERE SWELL! NOW THE WHOLE WORLD CAN SEE WHAT I LOVE ABOUT YOU!



"MY FLAMING RISE WAS SPECTACULAR... INCREDIBLE! IN A MATTER OF MONTHS, I WAS REFERRED TO AS HELENA GLAMOUR, FIRST LADY OF TELEVISION! THEN, ONE EVENING... AFTER MY PROGRAM..."

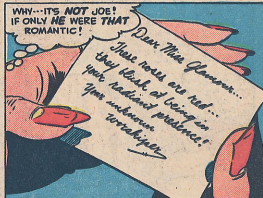


LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THIS BOUQUET... FOR YOU!

OH...IT MUST BE FROM JOE!

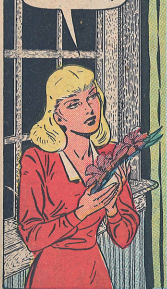


WHY...IT'S NOT JOE! IF ONLY HE WERE THAT ROMANTIC!



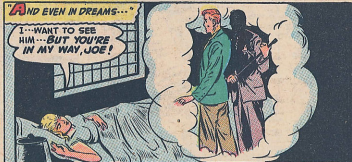
"MY UNKNOWN WORSHIPER... I GREW TO KNOW HIM WELL, AFTER EVERY SHOW, GIFTS OF FLOWERS, CANDY, PERFUME... ALWAYS WITH SWEETLY POETIC NOTES PRAISING MY BEAUTY. WHO WAS THIS MYSTERIOUS STRANGER, WHO SO THRILLED MY HEART AND IMAGINATION?"

I WONDER...WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE!



"AND EVEN IN DREAMS..."

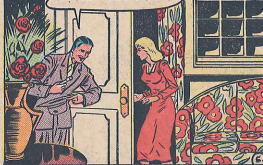
I...WANT TO SEE HIM...BUT YOU'RE IN MY WAY, JOE!



"THEN, ONE NIGHT AFTER THE PERFORMANCE, SOMEONE RAPPED ON THE DOOR! I OPENED IT...AND MY HEART LEAPED WITH A SUDDEN KNOWLEDGE!"



MISS GLAMOUR, ALLOW ME TO PRESENT MYSELF... DANE HALLIDAY, YOUR UNKNOWN WORSHIPER! I'VE REMAINED IN THE BACKGROUND BECAUSE I FEARED APPROACHING ANYONE QUITE SO LOVELY AS YOU... BUT NOW...

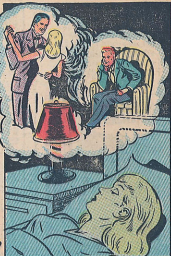


"DANE HALLIDAY
... THE MOVIE STAR
I'D IDOLIZED EVEN
AS A CHILD... HE WAS
MY UNKNOWN
WORSHIPER! DANE
HALLIDAY... TREATING
ME AS IF I WERE A
QUEEN AND HE A KING!
I WAS WEAK AND
DIZZY IN HIS PRESENCE
WHEN WE LEFT TO-
GETHER..."

I WANT THE BEST TABLE
IN THE ROOM, HENRI!

YES, SIR, MR.
HALLIDAY!
RIGHT THIS
WAY!

"I SAW DANE
FREQUENTLY
AFTER THAT!
GALLANT, SUAVE,
MATURE, HE FILLED
MY CONSCIOUSNESS
COMPLETELY! BE-
SIDE HIM, JOE,
WITH HIS ITALIAN
SPAGHETTI AND
BASEBALL GAMES,
SEEMED VAGUE,
CONVENTIONAL,
UNEXCITING!"



I... LOVE
YOU,
HELENA!



"THIS WAS THE
NIGHT THE DREAM
BECAME GOLDEN REAL-
ITY... AND HIS KISS
KINDLED A SPARK
IN THE DEPTHS
OF MY SOUL!
DANE HALLIDAY...
MY OWN!...
MY OWN
TRUE LOVE!"

"THE
GOSSIP
COLUMNS IN
THE NEWS-
PAPERS
THROGGED
WITH ITEMS
ABOUT
US..."

GLAMOUR
AND
HALLIDAY
MAKING
ALTA PLANS?

IS IT TRUE
SAY THEY
SAV ABOUT
AND HALL-
DAY AND IF
SO, WHEN?

WHAT T.V. DOLL, INITIALS H.G.,
IS NOW MAKING THE NIGHT
DANE HALLIDAY?

LET'S SLIP AWAY QUIETLY, DEAR...
SO WE CAN ENJOY EACH OTHER
WITHOUT HAVING NEWSPAPER-
MEN POKING AROUND!

OF COURSE... IT'S
ALL BEEN ARRANGED!
NOBODY WILL KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT IT...
WE'LL LEAVE EARLY IN THE
MORNING IN MY PLANE!...
I'M A LICENSED PILOT,
YOU KNOW!

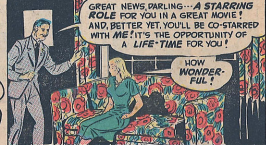
"I WAS THE
HAPPIEST GIRL IN
THE WORLD THAT
MORNING ON THE
WAY TO THE AIR-
PORT! FAME...
WEALTH... SUCCESS
... A GREAT LOVE
... AND NOW A
HOLLYWOOD
CAREER!"



"THERE WAS ONLY ONE FALSE NOTE IN THE GLORIOUS
RHAPSODY WHICH MY LIFE HAD BECOME... AND THAT WAS
JOE! I DECIDED TO CLEAR THAT UP FOR ONCE AND ALL...
AND MAILED HIS RING BACK TO HIM! A FAINT, CLUTCHING
REGRET STABBED AT MY HEART... BUT SUDDENLY..."

GREAT NEWS, DARLING... A STARRING
ROLE FOR YOU IN A GREAT MOVIE!
AND, BETTER YET, YOU'LL BE CO-STARRED
WITH ME! IT'S THE OPPORTUNITY OF
A LIFE-TIME FOR YOU!

HOW
WONDER-
FUL!



OH, HELENA DEAR, I WANT YOU TO MEET
MR. CHIVE CHROME... MY PRESS
AGENT! NATURALLY, HE HAS TO
BE WITH ME!

BUT WE--WE WERE
SUPPOSED TO BE
ALONE! AND
ALL THESE
OTHER
PEOPLE...





"...BUT THERE WAS A PUBLICITY-SEEKING TINGE ABOUT THIS WHOLE PICTURE WHICH I DIDN'T LIKE! STRANGE DOUBTS GRIPPED ME AS THE PLANE ROARED WESTWARD..."



"S" DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I SLEPT--BUT I WAS AWAKENED BY THE SOUND OF ARGUMENTATIVE VOICES SOUNDING OVER THE ROAR OF THE MOTORS--"



OKAY, OKAY! MAYBE I AM COASTING IN ON HER FAME! BUT YOU'LL ADMIT THAT I AM A GOOD ACTOR...SHE NEVER GOT WISE TO WHAT WAS BEHIND THAT **ROMANCE** LINE I SLIPPED HER!



"THE CRUEL WORDS STRUCK AT MY HEART LIKE A POISONED KNIFE! ALL OF MY CHERISHED HOPES AND DREAMS CRUMBLING IN DARK DESPAIR... AND REPLACING THEM CAME A BLAZING HATRED!"

I HEARD YOU... IS IT TRUE? ANSWER ME, IS IT TRUE?

CONFUND IT... ALRIGHT, IT'S TRUE! SURE I CASHED IN ON YOUR FAME... WHY NOT? THAT'S SHOW BUSINESS, KID! IT HAPPENS EVERY DAY!



"COULD THIS BE THE MAN WHO'D CAPTURED MY HEART... THIS LEERING, CALCULATING MONSTER? BLINDED BY MY TEARS, FLAMING WITH RAGE, I FELT MY FIST'S POUNDING HIM WILDLY, UNCONTROLLABLY..."

STOP IT! STOP IT, I SAY! ARE YOU CRAZY?

I WON'T! I... HATE YOU!



YOU'LL WRECK US! WE'RE OVER THE MOUNTAINS, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!

I DON'T CARE! I'LL SHOW YOU...

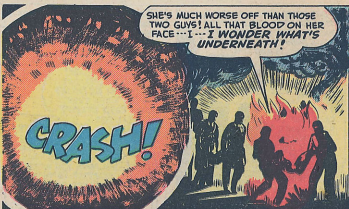


GET HER OFF ME! GET HER OFF! THE PLANE IS OUT OF CONTROL!

WATCH OUT! WE'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THAT PEAK!



SHE'S MUCH WORSE OFF THAN THOSE TWO GUYS! ALL THAT BLOOD ON HER FACE... I... I WONDER WHAT'S UNDERNEATH!



HEAVENS, DID YOU SEE HER... HER FACE?

NEVER MIND HER FACE... IT'S HER LIFE I'M CONCERNED WITH! ONLY AN IMMEDIATE OPERATION CAN SAVE HER! IT'S A GAMBLE... BUT WE'VE GOT TO TAKE IT!



"I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I LAY
MIDWAY BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH
...CONSCIOUS ONLY OF A MERCILESS
POUNDING IN MY HEAD, AN INTOLER-
ABLE ACHE IN MY HEART..."



"THEN, ONE
DAY, I CAME
BACK TO FULL
CONSCIOUSNESS
...TO FEEL MY
BANDAGES BEING
REMOVED! WITH
A STABBING STICK
MEMORY FLOODED
BACK TO ME! BUT
I HAD ONLY ONE
THOUGHT...
**MY FACE!
WAS
IT...?"**

**MY FACE! A MIRROR!
GIVE ME A MIRROR!**



**OH, NO!
N-NO!**



"MY OWN
SHRIEK'S
KEPT ECHOING,
RE-ECHOING
THROUGH THE
DARK RECESSES
OF MY MIND
EVEN AFTER
DRUG-INDUCED
SLEEP SETTLED
OVER ME LIKE
A HEAVY
BLANKET!"

THEY TOLD ME YOUR GEDATIVE WAS WEARING
OFF! I'M SORRY ABOUT THE ACCIDENT
...BUT NATURALLY, IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT THE
NEWSPAPERS DON'T FIND OUT WHAT
REALLY HAPPENED! I'M LEAVING
HERE TODAY TO RUSH TO HOLLYWOOD
AND SELECT A CO-STAR TO REPLACE
YOU! VERY UNFORTUNATE THAT YOU...

**GET OUT OF
HERE, YOU...
YOU...**



"NEXT DAY...ANOTHER VISITOR..."

WE WERE ALL STUNNED TO
LEARN OF YOUR ACCIDENT
...I FLEW RIGHT OUT HERE
TO SEE YOU! WE WANT YOU
TO KNOW THAT WE WILL
HANDLE ALL MEDICAL
EXPENSES...AND I'M
SURE, MISS GLAMOUR,
THAT YOU REALIZE..."

...THAT INASMUCH AS
THIS UNFORTUNATE
ACCIDENT IS MORE OR
LESS AN ACT OF GOD,
WHY, NATURALLY, IT
VOIDS OUR CON-
TRACT WITH
YOU!



YES, YES, I...KNOW!
PLEASE, I...I'D
LIKE TO BE ALONE!



"I CLOSED MY EYES, PRAYED FOR
DEATH...SWEET, MERCIFUL DEATH!
FOR WHAT WAS LIE NOW BUT A MOCK-
ERY? MY ONE ASSET...MY BEAUTY...
DESTROYED! I WAS ABANDONED,
LEFT ALONE WITH MY UGLINESS!"

**WHY...WASNT
I... KILLED?**



"THEN, A VOICE...A DEAR, FAMILIAR VOICE OUT OF THE SWEET, DEAD PAST! IT...IT WASN'T...IT COULDN'T BE..."

DON'T--TALK OF DEATH, DARLING! YOU STILL HAVE A WHOLE LIFE AHEAD OF YOU...

JOE? YOU...! YOU CAME TO PITY ME!



CAN'T YOU SEE MY FACE, JOE? ARE YOU BLIND? CAN'T YOU SEE THAT I'M UGLY, REPULSIVE? WHY DON'T YOU TURN AWAY...?

TURN AWAY? NO, DEAR...YOU ALWAYS WERE BEAUTIFUL TO ME! YOU STILL ARE...YOU ALWAYS WILL BE!



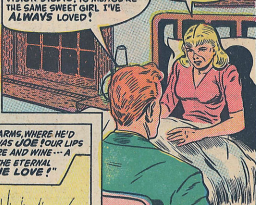
YOU'RE LYING...I KNOW IT! LEAVE ME ALONE WITH MY UGLINESS!

YOU'RE WRONG, HELEN! YOU COULDN'T BE UGLY! IT'S NOT THE FACE ALONE THAT MAKES ONE BEAUTIFUL! ITS CHARACTER, PERSONALITY... THAT'S BEAUTY!



DARLING...I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT YOUR TRUE LOVELINESS WAS DROWNED OUT BY THE Klieg LIGHTS OF THE TELEVISION STUDIO! TO ME, YOU'RE THE SAME SWEET GIRL I'VE ALWAYS LOVED!

YOU DO MEAN THAT, DON'T YOU, JOE? YOU DO MEAN IT?



"I LOOKED DEEP INTO HIS STEADY EYES... INTO HIS FAITHFUL HEART! YES, HE MEANT IT... HIS WORDS... HIS LOVE! FROM THE FIRST, HE'D CARED FOR ME FOR MYSELF ALONE... AND I KNEW, AT LONG LAST, THAT THERE COULD NEVER BE ANOTHER MAN IN THE WORLD FOR ME!"

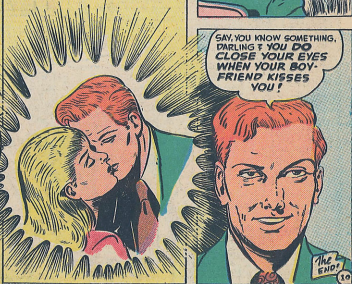
"AND THERE IN MY ARMS, WHERE HE'D ALWAYS BELONGED, WAS JOE! OUR LIPS MET IN A KISS OF FIRE AND WINE... A SWEET PLEDGE OF THE ETERNAL HAPPINESS OF TRUE LOVE!"

OH, FORGIVE ME, JOE, FOR HAVING BEEN SUCH A CRAZY FOOL! OH, JOE, JOE DARLING! I LOVE YOU SO!

MAKE THAT DOUBLE, MONEY! AND IF IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL ANY BETTER, THE DOCTORS SAY THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT FACE OF YOURS THAT A JO3 OF PLASTIC SURGERY WON'T FIX!

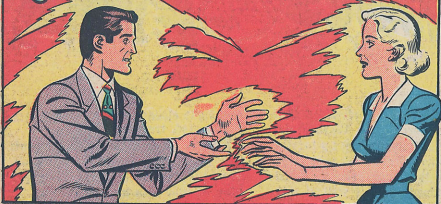


SAY, YOU KNOW SOMETHING, DARLING? YOU DO CLOSE YOUR EYES WHEN YOUR BOY-FRIEND KISSES YOU!



THE END! 10

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT!



ONE OF THE MOST FREQUENT QUESTIONS THAT READERS ASK THE EDITORS OF THIS MAGAZINE IS: "WHAT IS **LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT**... HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN IT HAPPENS TO **ME?**" HERE, READER, IS AN ANSWER TO THAT MOST IMPORTANT OF QUESTIONS!



THE FIRST SIGN THAT YOU'VE BECOME THE HAPPY VICTIM OF **LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT** OCCURS WHEN YOU MEET A MAN FOR THE FIRST TIME...AND INSTANTANEOUSLY, YOU FEEL AS IF SOME UNSEEN, POWERFUL ELECTRICAL FORCE HAS SHOCKED YOU...AND RELENTLESSLY DRAWS YOU CLOSER TO THE MAN YOU KNOW YOU WERE **DESTINED** TO MEET!



THIS TURBULENT FEELING BECOMES EVEN STRONGER AS YOU COME CLOSER TO HIM, GET TO KNOW HIM! YOU FEEL YOUR BLOOD RACING THROUGH YOUR VEINS, YOU SEEM TO BE FLOATING ON AIR, YOUR HEART THROBS WITH A MIGHTY EMOTION...**LOVE!**



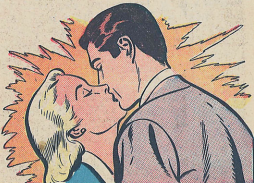
SOMETIMES, ALTHOUGH YOU'VE FALLEN IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, YOU DON'T REALIZE IT UNTIL YOU BECOME AWARE THAT THE TWO OF YOU THINK ALIKE, FEEL ALIKE...**ARE ALIKE!** IT'S THIS SIMILARITY OF MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL MAKEUP THAT ATTRACTED YOU TO EACH OTHER IN THE FIRST PLACE...AND SET OFF THAT EXPLOSION KNOWN AS **LOVE!**

JOHN...THAT MOON! IT...IT GIVES ME THE STRANGEST, MOST WONDERFUL SENSATION...

I...I FEEL THE SAME WAY, DARLING! I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY...EVEN BEFORE YOU SAY IT! IT'S AS IF WE'RE **ONE PERSON!**



ALTHOUGH THE EXPLANATION FOR **LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT** MAY REMAIN A MYSTERIOUS SECRET, THERE'S ONE SURE TEST...IF HIS PRESENCE FILLS YOU WITH AN ALMOST INDESCRIBABLE RAPTURE...IF YOU **NEVER** WANT TO LEAVE THOSE TENDER, EMBRACING ARMS...**THEN YOU'RE IN LOVE!**



★ STARS in her EYES ★

It had always been understood that Anne would marry Ted. When a girl and boy have almost grown up together in the same town, gone to the same school, had the same friends, dated each other steadily . . . well, it was just *understood!*

Perhaps that was why Kim Patton came as such a shock to Anne. A young attorney, he had flown down from New York to see the lawyer Anne worked for. He had seen Anne, too. And to Anne, for the first time, came that feeling of excitement, of exhilaration, of glamorous love.

"I've always been completely honest, Ted," she said, one day after the young lawyer had arrived. "I'm sorry, but I think it's better to tell you now. I think I'm in love with Kim Patton!"

Kim Patton and Anne. He had noted her beauty, her slender, curved loveliness. As for the expression in her eyes, Kim couldn't miss it! He asked her for a date and Anne, eager to meet love, accepted.

Kim Patton had a sleek, shiny convertible. There weren't many of those in town and Anne knew a feeling of overwhelming luxury as she settled back next to Kim. "Where to?" he asked. "I'm a stranger in town. But, if you don't mind, I'd like to go someplace where we can be alone. I want to talk to you, Anne."

A heady feeling pervaded her. "He knows it too!" she thought, as she suggested Warren Park. "There's a lovely view of the river," she said, "and we can see it from the rise."

Kim parked the car on the rise. As the moon filtered its beams through

the night clouds, he saw Anne's face, illuminated, tremulous.

"You're an unexpected find in this hick town!" he said, his voice harsh. Then he reached for her, pulling her towards him with a grip of steel.

For the first time, Anne knew fear. This man was a stranger, as he himself had said. And his face was no longer handsome, exciting. . . it was hard and demanding.

"Let me go!" she whispered. "Let me go!"

"Don't be a little sap!" he grated. "You've been telling me with your eyes, with your face that you love me. . ."

"Let her go!" This was an angry voice, alive with threat. Kim whirled around. "All right, get out of the car! Get out, I said!"

It was a short fight. . . not much opposition on Kim's part. Ted let loose with a mighty right that sent Kim Patton reeling against the side of his car. "Stay away from my girl! Come on, Anne!"

She followed Ted for a little while and then, timidly, put her hand on his arm. "Don't be angry, Ted," she said. "I was mistaken."

"I knew you were, baby. That's why I followed you. A girl as honest as you sometimes lets too much emotion show. . . emotion that a guy like Kim Patton could misinterpret."

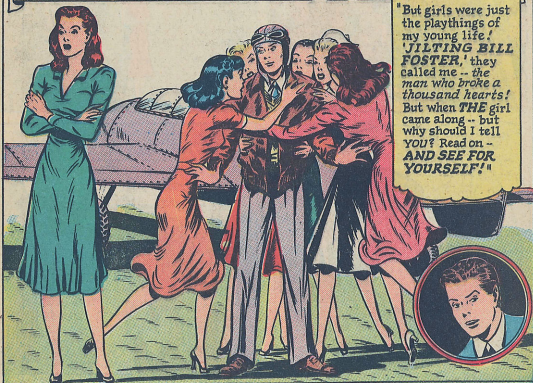
"It won't happen again, darling," she promised.

"I'll say it won't!" Ted took her in his arms and kissed her, long and hard. "See, honey? There are stars in your eyes again . . . only this time, they're for me!"

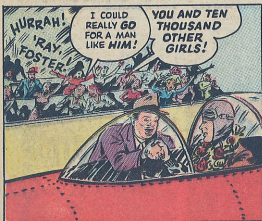
"With my head in the clouds -- AND YOU IN MY ARMS!"

"WHAT'S WRONG with having your head in the clouds -- when you're America's handsomest, most popular speed pilot? What's wrong with thinking you're a pretty great guy when gorgeous girls fight to meet you -- swoon at your kisses?"

"But girls were just the playthings of my young life! 'JILTING BILL FOSTER,' they called me -- the man who broke a thousand hearts! But when **THE** girl came along -- but why should I tell **YOU**? Read on -- **AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!**"



"LET'S START IN WITH THE DAY I WON THE NATIONAL AIR RACES AT CLEVELAND! SURE, I WAS SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD --"



"I HEARD THEIR OUTSPOKEN ADMIRATION -- FELT THE SAME OLD THRILL COURSEING THROUGH MY BLOOD!"

"I SHOULD BE GETTING **USED** TO THIS! BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES IT HAPPENS, I STILL GET THE SAME OLD THRILL! -- I REMEMBER HOW IT WAS EVEN BACK IN COLLEGE --"



ANOTHER TOUCHDOWN! 'RAY, BILL! FOSTER SCORES AGAIN!



OH, I COULD JUST HUG THAT BILL FOSTER TO PIECES!

WELL, GO EASY ON ME, KID--I CAN'T TAKE IT THE WAY HE CAN! AND IF YOU WANT TO GIVE HIM A VICTORY KISS, YOU'D BETTER GET IN LINE FAST!

"THERE WASN'T A GIRL ON THE CAMPUS WHO WASN'T TRYING TO WHEELIE ME INTO A DATE! BUT I ALWAYS MADE SURE TO PICK THE PRETTIEST OF THEM ALL!"

OH, BILL, YOU WERE WONDERFUL! THEY JUST GAVE UP IN THAT LAST QUARTER --- YOU BROKE THEIR HEARTS WHEN THEY SAW THEY COULDN'T STOP YOU!

AND I DO THINGS TO YOUR HEART, TOO... DON'T I, BEAUTIFUL?



GASP! YES-- YOU DO!



"THEN CAME THE WAR, FLIGHT-TRAINING SCHOOL IN THE ARMY AIR CORPS... AND DO YOU THINK IT WAS ANY DIFFERENT?"

I'LL BET YOU'RE NOT AFRAID WHEN YOU'RE ALL ALONE UP THERE IN THE CLOUDS!

NO, NOT AFRAID-- JUST LONESOME -- FOR YOU! SHALL WE -- STEP OUT ON THE TERRACE, DARLING?



"IT WAS KISS 'EM AND LEAVE 'EM ALL DURING MY STAY IN THE STATES! I CHALKED UP CONQUEST AFTER CONQUEST -- JUST AS I DID IN THE STUKA-FILLED SKIES OF EUROPE MONTHS LATER!"

ANOTHER ONE -- GUESS THAT MAKES ME AN ACE!



"AND IN MY OFF-HOURS, I FOUND THAT WOMEN WERE ALL ALIKE-- EVERYWHERE! FRENCH HEARTS WERE AS EASY TO BREAK AS AMERICAN -- WHEN BILL FOSTER WAS ON THE GIVING END!"

BUT YOU ARE SO YOUNG TO BE A CAPTAIN-- SO HANDSOME AND DEBONNAIR! IT--IT WOULD BE EASY TO LOVE YOU, CHERI!

HEY-- WHAT ABOUT US? WHAT IN BLAZES HAVE YOU GOT THAT WE HAVEN'T, BILL?



"I THOUGHT MY LUCK HAD RUN OUT; ONE DAY OVER THE RHINE, WHEN A NAZI SQUADRON FORCED ME TO A CRASH LANDING! BUT IT HADN'T-- NOT WITH WOMEN."

WHAT, TAKE MY TEMPERATURE AGAIN? YOU KNOW IT'S ALWAYS AT THE BOILING-POINT WHEN YOU'RE AROUND!

PLEASE, CAPTAIN! YOU MIGHT AS WELL KNOW NOW-- MEN HAVE NO PART IN MY LIFE!



"BROTHER, WAS SHE **WRONG!**
I **POURED** ON THE CHARM -- AND BY
THE TIME I LEFT THAT HOSPITAL --"

OH, DARLING --- YOU'RE
IRRESISTIBLE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
I'M GOING TO **DO**
WITHOUT YOU!

ARMY
HOSPITAL

"YES, THAT'S THE
WAY IT ALWAYS
WAS! **WOMEN**
MEANT **NOTHING**
TO ME -- BUT I
GLORIED IN THE FEELING
OF **POWER** I GAINED
THROUGH WINNING
THEM!

TRUST ME NEVER
TO FALL IN LOVE
MYSELF--AND WHAT
MATTERED **NOW** MANY
BROKEN HEARTS
I LEFT IN MY WAKE?
NOW--WINNING THE
AIR RACES WOULD
MAKE ME THE
HERO OF
EVERY GIRL
IN THE
COUNTRY!"

THAT WAS A GREAT RACE,
BILL --- I'M GLAD I SPONSORED
THE FASTEST SPEED PILOT IN
THE WORLD! AND WITH ALL
THE PUBLICITY YOU'LL GET,
YOU'LL BE A GREAT ASSET
TO MY AIRLINE! HOW
ABOUT BECOMING
CHIEF PILOT?
YOU CAN NAME
YOUR OWN
SALARY!

IT'S A DEAL,
MR. WALLACE--
I'D BE CRAZY
TO PASS UP
AN OFFER
LIKE THAT!

"MICHAEL WALLACE PAID ME MONEY APLENTY--BUT
I SOON BECAME BORED WITH MY NEW JOB! MY
DUTIES WERE KEEPING ME AWAY FROM THE FEMININE
ADULATION I WAS ACCUSTOMED TO--AND **NEEDED!**
BUT WHEN A PRETTY NEW HOSTESS WAS ASSIGNED
TO MY PLANE, I KNEW **THAT** PROBLEM WAS SOLVED!"

I CAN SEE MY FUTURE TRIPS
ARE **REALLY** GOING TO BE
HEAVENLY -- WITH AN ANGEL
LIKE **YOU** TO KEEP ME
COMPANY! HOW ABOUT
A DATE TONIGHT? MY
NAME'S BILL FOS---

OH, EVERYONE
KNOWS WHO **YOU**
ARE, MR. FOSTER!
AND I'D **LOVE**
TO GO OUT
WITH YOU!

"MY FIRST FEW DATES WITH **MARGE ROCKWELL**
TAUGHT ME THAT SHE WAS SHY AND SENSITIVE, AND
THAT SHE WAS FALLING FOR ME -- **HARD!**"

YOU BELONG OUT
HERE, MARGE --
ALONG WITH THE
OTHER BEAUTIES
OF NATURE!

OH, BILL, I LOVE
TO HEAR YOU TALK
LIKE THAT! YOU'VE NO
IDEA WHAT YOU'VE COME
TO **MEAN** TO ME -- I'VE
NEVER FELT THIS
WAY ABOUT A MAN
BEFORE!

"THEN ---"

DARLING...!

OH, BILL ---
I **LOVE**
YOU
SO!

THAT KISS TOLD
ME ALL I WANTED
TO KNOW, BILL ---
YOU **COULDN'T**
KISS ME LIKE
THAT UNLESS
YOU **REALLY**
LOVED ME!
-- **WHEN ARE**
WE GOING TO
BE MARRIED,
SWEETHEART?

MARRIED?
WELL, I... I...
HADN'T REALLY
DECIDED ON
THE DATE! MY
PLANS ARE SO
UNSETTLED, YOU
KNOW -- BUT
WE'LL TALK ABOUT
THAT SOME
OTHER
TIME!

"**MARRIAGE... WHEW!** THIS WAS
ONE ROMANCE I **HAD** TO BAIL
OUT OF --- **NO ONE** WAS GOING TO
TRICK **BILL FOSTER** INTO
WALKING DOWN THE AISLE! MARGE
WAS A DANGEROUS INVOLVEMENT,
CARRYING THE TORCH LIKE THAT---
AND SO I HAD HER CHANGED TO A
DIFFERENT FLIGHT, IGNORED HER
FRANTIC PHONE CALLS AND LETTERS!"

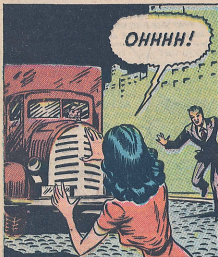
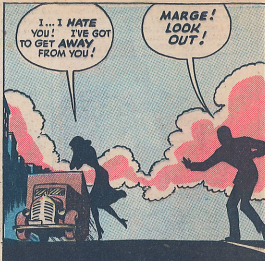
Dearest --
I can't stand it
any more!
Why are you
swearing me?
I can't live without
you! Bill-- please
let me see you!
Devotedly,
Marge

"I HAD TO GET HER OFF MY NECK ONCE AND FOR ALL! SO I ARRANGED A FINAL MEETING --"

IT'S TIME YOU FOUND OUT, MARGE --- YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME! THAT KISS MIGHT HAVE MEANT LOVE TO YOU -- BUT IT WAS NOTHING TO ME! THERE WERE DOZENS LIKE YOU BEFORE, AND THERE'LL BE DOZENS AFTER! YOU SEE --

I'M NOT THE MARRYING KIND!

OH, NO -- NO!



OHHHH!

"I WAS DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THE ACCIDENT! LUCKILY, HOWEVER, MARGE ESCAPED MERELY WITH A FEW BROKEN RIBS TO ADD TO HER BROKEN HEART! SHE WAS SURE TO RECOVER EVENTUALLY, SO I SOON FORGOT ABOUT HER -- ESPECIALLY SINCE SOMEONE NEW, SOMEONE IMPORTANT, TOOK HER PLACE! MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER!"



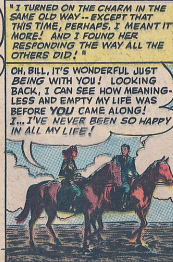
I WANT YOU TO MEET MY DAUGHTER, GERTRUDE -- BUT NOT AS BADLY AS SHE WANTS TO MEET YOU! SHE'S BEEN HOUNDING THE LIFE OUT OF ME THE LAST FEW DAYS --

OH, DADDY, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD HIM THAT! WHAT WILL MR. FOSTER THINK OF ME?



JUST THAT YOU'RE THE LOVELIEST GIRL I'VE EVER SEEN! AND BY THE WAY, MY FIRST NAME'S BILL!

ALL RIGHT. ...BILL! YOU - YOU'RE EXACTLY THE WAY I'D DREAMED YOU'D BE!



"I TURNED ON THE CHARM IN THE SAME OLD WAY -- EXCEPT THAT THIS TIME, PERHAPS, I MEANT IT MORE! AND I FOUND HER RESPONDING THE WAY ALL THE OTHERS DID!"

OH, BILL, IT'S WONDERFUL JUST BEING WITH YOU! LOOKING BACK, I CAN SEE HOW MEANINGLESS AND EMPTY MY LIFE WAS BEFORE YOU CAME ALONG! I... I'VE NEVER BEEN SO HAPPY IN ALL MY LIFE!



"IT WAS TIME TO STRIKE! A DANCE -- AND I MANEUVERED HER OUT ONTO THE TERRACE! I LOOKED DOWN AT HER RED, TEMPTING LIPS --"

YOU'RE LOVELY... DARLING!

"AND SHE WAS THE GIRL I'D DREAMED ABOUT! IT WAS EASY TO SEE HOW MEN COULD FALL IN LOVE WITH HER! IT WOULD BE A REAL FEATHER IN MY CAP IF I COULD MAKE HER FALL FOR ME! AND SO --"

"IN HER EYES WAS MUTE SURRENDER! JUST LIKE ALL THE OTHERS -- BUT WAS IT? FOR AS I PRESSED MY LIPS TO HERS, A FIRE THAT I HAD NEVER KNOWN BEFORE SWEEPED THROUGH MY BLOOD, MADE MY HEAD REEL WITH DIZZIFYING ECSTASY!"



"I BROKE FROM THE EMBRACE, DAZED -- BEWILDERED! COULD THIS BE I -- JILTING BILL FOSTER -- SHAKEN TO THE CORE BY JUST ANOTHER KISS? AND HER ENIGMATIC SMILE -- WHAT LAY BEHIND IT?"



I... I'D BETTER GO!
I'LL HAVE A CAB
TAKE YOU HOME!

"SLEEP WAS IMPOSSIBLE THAT NIGHT! I HAD TO FIND OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO ME... HAD TO FIND A NAME FOR THE VIOLENT EMOTION WHICH HAD GRIPPED ME! THERE WAS BUT ONE ANSWER --"

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT I'M IN LOVE -- FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE! SHE'S THE ONLY GIRL IN THE WORLD FOR ME! I... I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HER AGAIN... TO TELL HER...



"I COUNTED THE MOMENTS TILL DAWN! AND FINALLY, A THROBBING SONG OF LOVE IN MY HEART..."

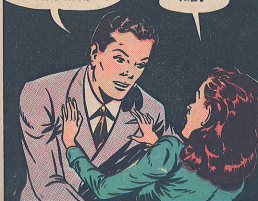


DARLING, THAT KISS LAST NIGHT TOLD ME WE WERE MEANT FOR EACH OTHER -- FOREVER! I... I NEVER KNEW THE REAL MEANING OF LOVE BEFORE -- BUT I KNOW NOW THAT I LOVE YOU -- DESPERATELY! AND

I KNOW FROM THE WAY YOU'VE ACTED SINCE WE FIRST MET THAT YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT ME!

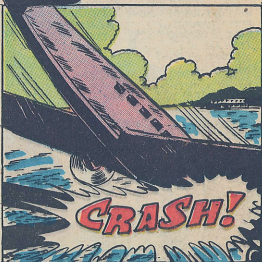
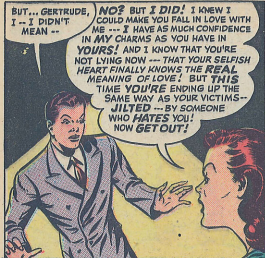
WE'LL GET MARRIED RIGHT AWAY -- DARLING... WHAT'S WRONG? WHY ARE YOU TURNING AWAY --?

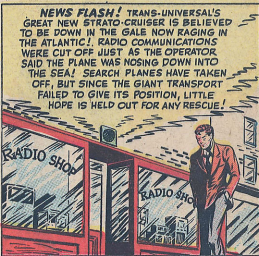
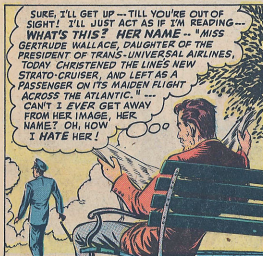
MARRIED? -- WHAT A LAUGH! GET YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF ME!



YOU STUPID FOOL! I KNEW ALL ABOUT YOU -- AND THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T FALL INTO THE SAME TRAP YOU SET FOR ALL YOUR OTHER GIRLS -- INCLUDING MARGE ROCKWELL -- MY COUSIN! DAD GOT HER THE JOB AS HOSTESS, AND SHE SOBBED OUT THE WHOLE STORY TO ME IN THE HOSPITAL! THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO MEET YOU... I SWORE I'D MAKE YOU PAY FOR EVERY DUNCE OF PAIN AND HEARTBREAK SHE SUFFERED!







"I WAITED FOR THE FEELING OF ELATION, OF RELEASE AND FREEDOM THAT I SHOULD HAVE FELT --- BUT INSTEAD, A BOTTOMLESS DESPAIR AND EMPTINESS OVERWHELMED ME! THEN, IT WAS AS IF A BLINDING REVELATION SUDDENLY PIERCED MY HEART, SET MY FEET TO RACING...!"

"I DON'T HATE HER --- I'VE JUST BEEN TRYING TO FOOL MYSELF! LORD HELP ME --- I LOVE HER --- AND I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT HER! I MUST TRY TO SAVE HER! IF I CAN'T---AT LEAST WE CAN BE CLOSE TO EACH OTHER IN DEATH!"



"LISTEN --- GIVE ME A PLANE! I KNOW THAT OCEAN LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND --- I'LL FIND THEM!"

"WHAT COULD YOU DO, WHEN RESPONSIBLE PILOTS CAN'T LOCATE THEM? GET OFF THIS FIELD, YOU MISERABLE DRUNKARD!"



"THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING TO DO! SHEER DESPERATION -- AND LOVE -- GOADED ME FORWARD!"

"STOP! YOU CAN'T GET IN THAT PLANE! GUARD!"

"GOOD -- CALL HIM! I CAN USE HIS GUN!"



"STOP --- OR I'LL SHOO --- UGH!"



"ALL RIGHT---NOBODY TRY TO STOP ME! BETTER CLEAR OFF THE RUNWAY-- BECAUSE I'M TAKING OFF!"

"WE'D BETTER DO AS HE SAYS! HE'S OUT OF HIS MIND --- ESPECIALLY IF HE'S THINKING OF BUTTING HIS WAY THROUGH THAT GALE!"



"I HEARD THE POUNDING OF THE ENGINES AS I TOOK OFF -- BUT THE POUNDING OF MY HEART SOUNDED EVEN LOUDER! IT WAS SINGING A WILD SONG OF EXHILARATION --- FOR I WAS GOING TO MEET MY LOVE, EITHER IN LIFE OR IN DEATH!"

"FROM THE WIND SPEED, I CAN CALCULATE JUST HOW FAR AND WHERE THE PLANE WAS BLOWN OFF COURSE! THE OTHERS PROBABLY DIDN'T DARE GO TOO FAR, BUT I'M GOING THE LIMIT -- EVEN IF IT MEANS I END UP IN THE OCEAN!"



"ON AND ON I FORCED THE BUCKING AMPHIBIAN-- AS THE SCREAMING WINDS HOWLED A DIRGE OF DEATH!"

"GALE'S GETTING WORSE... AND MY GAS SUPPLY'S GETTING LOWER! I'VE GOT JUST ABOUT ENOUGH NOW TO GET ME BACK TO LAND -- IF I WERE GOING BACK! BUT I CAN'T --- SHE MAY BE OUT HERE... SOMEWHERE... WAITING..."



"MILE AFTER WEARY, STORM-TOSSED MILE -- AND MY HOPES FADED INTO DESPAIR! SURELY SHE WAS LONG SINCE DEAD -- AND EVEN IF LIVING, HOW COULD I EVER FIND HER AMID THIS WILD WASTE OF WATER? IT WAS A FOOL'S ERRAND, I THOUGHT BITTERLY -- BETTER TO JOIN HER IN THE SEA THAT WAS HER GRAVE! THEN, SUDDENLY -- THROUGH THE DARKNESS ---"

A ROCKET! SOMEONE'S ALIVE -- AFLOAT OUT THERE!



"IT TOOK EVERY OUNCE OF SKILL AND STRENGTH I COULD SUMMON TO LAND MY PLANE IN THE DANGEROUSLY HEAVING SEA! I MADE A PIN-POINT LANDING, BUT AS A SURGING WAVE SMASHED AT MY CRAFT ---"



"MY HEAD WOUND HAD LEFT ME WALLOWING IN AN AGONY OF DIZZING PAIN! I KNEW I HAD TO FIGHT MY WAY BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS -- STRUGGLE AGAINST THE BLACKNESS THAT WAS THREATENING TO OVERWHELM ME! ALL THESE LIVES, THEY DEPEND ON ME -- ME --"

THAT PILOT IS ALMOST OUT COLD! WE'RE STILL DOOMED --- WE'LL NEVER GET BACK WITH HIM AT THE CONTROLS! IF ONLY OUR PILOTS WEREN'T KILLED WHEN WE CRASHED ---!

GET EVERYONE... ON BOARD! GOING TO TAKE OFF... GOT TO GET BACK... GOT TO SAVE HER -- IF SHE'S ABOARD ---



"PULSES RACING WITH EXCITEMENT, I ZOOMED OVER THE SPOT FROM WHICH THE ROCKET HAD SEEMED TO COME, AND DROPPED A FLARE! AND THERE, OUTLINED IN THE GARISH LIGHT..."

THANK HEAVENS-- HE'S SEEN US!



WE'RE SAVED! QUICK, GET ON BOARD -- THIS WING WON'T FLOAT MORE THAN ANOTHER FEW MINUTES!



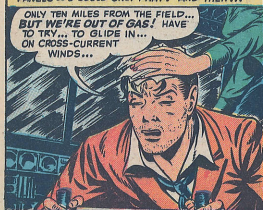
"I WAS OPERATING ON SHEER INSTINCT AS I TOOK OFF, HEADED BACK TOWARD LAND! I COULD BARELY SEE THE CONTROL PANELS THROUGH THE MIST THAT FILLED MY EYES -- AND WHEN I TASTED BLOOD IN MY MOUTH, I KNEW IT WASN'T ONLY MIST THAT WAS BLURRING MY VISION!"

SOMEBODY... WIPE MY FOREHEAD... TRY TO STOP BLOOD --- OH, THANKS... WHOEVER YOU ARE...!



"ALL THROUGH THE WEARY, PAIN-WRACKED MILES, THERE WAS A COOL, GENTLE HAND ON MY FORE-HEAD! WAS IT-- COULD IT BE --SHE? I DIDN'T DARE TAKE MY BLURRED EYES FROM THE CONTROL PANELS -- I COULD ONLY PRAY! AND THEN..."

ONLY TEN MILES FROM THE FIELD... BUT WE'RE OUT OF GAS! HAVE TO TRY... TO GLIDE IN... ON CROSS-CURRENT WINDS...



"I FELT MYSELF SINKING--SINKING! AS OBLIVION HOVERED CLOSE, I HAD BUT ONE WISH-- TO LAST LONG ENOUGH TO LAND THE PLANE SAFELY-- TO SAVE THE PEOPLE I HAD RESCUED -- THE GIRL THAT I LOVED!"



"ONLY BLACKNESS -- AND THE GROUND RACING UP TO MEET US!"



"I AWOKE NEXT DAY TO LIFE -- TO HER!"

GERTRUDE... I... I KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE -- IT'S OUT OF GRATITUDE! BUT, PLEASE, SPARE ME THAT! IT'S ENOUGH FOR ME THAT YOU'RE BACK, ALIVE -- I KNOW THAT YOU HATE ME --

HATE YOU?-- YOU WOULDN'T SAY THAT IF YOU KNEW HOW MY HEART HAD CRIED OUT AGAINST TELLING YOU THE THINGS I DID! NOW THERE'S SOMETHING I CAN TELL A REAL MAN -- SOMETHING I HID FROM THE OLD BILL FOSTER--



-- THAT YOU DID CONQUER ME -- THAT YOU ARE IRRESISTIBLE -- THAT I LOVE YOU! I LOVED YOU FROM THE MOMENT I SAW YOU, BUT I THOUGHT I WAS JUST ANOTHER VICTIM TO YOU! BUT I KNOW TRUE HEROISM AND BRAVE STRENGTH -- AND WHAT YOU DID IN RISKING YOUR LIFE PROVED THAT BASICALLY, YOU'RE ALL MAN!



"WITH MY LOVE IN MY ARMS ONCE MORE, HER LIPS SEARING ME TO MY VERY SOUL. I KNEW THAT WE WERE BOTH VICTIMS -- OF ROMANCE! AND SO BILL FOSTER, THE JILTING HEART-BREAKER, SURRENDERED HIS HEART TO THE GIRL WHO SHOWED HIM THAT LOVE WAS MORE THAN A GAME -- THAT IT WAS THE ONLY THING WORTH LIVING FOR!"

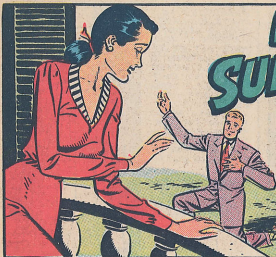
SWEETHEART!



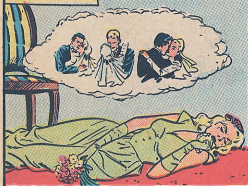
The END

LOVERS' SUPERSTITIONS

SINCE LOVE IS THE MOST POWERFUL EMOTION IN THE WORLD, IT'S NO WONDER THAT DESPERATE LOVERS THROUGH THE CENTURIES TURNED TO MAGIC AND SUPERSTITIONS TO ATTAIN THEIR HEARTS' DESIRES! AND NO MATTER HOW CYNICAL OR CIVILIZED YOU ARE, YOU'D BETTER THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU LAUGH AT THESE **LOVERS' SUPERSTITIONS**... BECAUSE WHO KNOWS?... THERE MAY BE SOMETHING TO THEM!



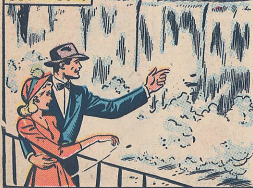
"THREE TIMES A BRIDESMAID, NEVER A BRIDE!" MANY A BRIDESMAID HAS BROKEN HER HEART OVER THIS ANCIENT SAYING... WITHOUT KNOWING THERE IS ANOTHER SUPERSTITION... THAT IF SHE IS A BRIDESMAID SEVEN TIMES, THE JINX WILL BE BROKEN!



IF A GIRL PASSES A SMALL PIECE OF WEDDING CAKE THROUGH A WEDDING RING, THEN PLACES IT IN HER LEFT STOCKING, AND FINALLY PUTS IT UNDER HER PILLOW AND SLEEPS ON IT, HER FUTURE HUSBAND WILL APPEAR TO HER IN HER DREAMS THAT NIGHT! NOWADAYS, PIECES OF WEDDING CAKE ARE PACKED IN LITTLE BOXES FOR ROMANTIC GUESTS, WHO CAN PUT BOX AND ALL UNDER THEIR PILLOWS!



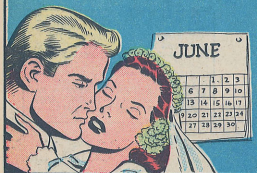
CASTING PENNIES INTO WATERS OR WISHING WELLS WHILE MAKING A WISH HAS BEEN PRACTICED FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL BY ENGAGED OR HONEYMOONING COUPLES! THIS SUPERSTITIOUS GESTURE FOLLOWS AN ANCIENT BELIEF THAT PAYING A TRIBUTE TO THE WATER GODS BRINGS **GOOD LUCK!**



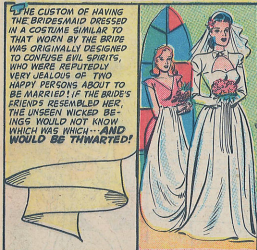
THE BRIDAL VEIL IS OF ORIENTAL ORIGIN, AND WAS ORIGINALLY USED TO WARD OFF THE **EVIL EYE!** IN CHINA TODAY, AN UMBRELLA IS HELD OVER THE BRIDE FOR THE SAME REASON!



WHY ARE JUNE WEDDINGS THOUGHT TO BRING GOOD LUCK AND HAPPINESS? THIS SUPERSTITION GOES BACK TO THE ANCIENT ROMANS, WHO CONSIDERED THE GODDESS **JUNO** AS JUPITER'S DEVOTED AND HAPPY WIFE, WHO WOULD MAKE JOYOUS ALL MARRIAGES PERFORMED IN THE MONTH NAMED AFTER HER!



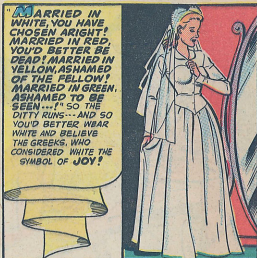
THE CUSTOM OF HAVING THE BRIDESMAID DRESSED IN A COSTUME SIMILAR TO THAT WORN BY THE BRIDE WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED TO CONFUSE EVIL SPIRITS, WHO WERE REPUTEDLY VERY JEALOUS OF TWO HAPPY PERSONS ABOUT TO BE MARRIED! IF THE BRIDE'S FRIENDS RESEMBLED HER, THE UNSEEN NICKED BEINGS WOULD NOT KNOW WHICH WAS WHICH...AND WOULD BE THWARTED!



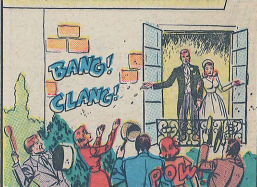
THE KISS BETWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE STARTED IN ANCIENT ROME, WHEN A SUSPICIOUS ROMAN HUSBAND PRESSED HIS LIPS ON HIS WIFE'S TO LEARN IF SHE HAD BEEN DRINKING WINE! THIS EVENTUALLY LED TO THE BETROTHAL KISS, TO SHOW GOOD FAITH BETWEEN LOVERS!



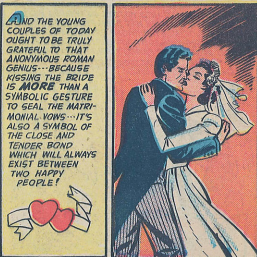
"MARRIED IN WHITE, YOU HAVE CHOSEN ARIGHT! MARRIED IN RED, YOU'D BETTER BE DEAD! MARRIED IN YELLOW, ASHAMED OF THE FELLOW! MARRIED IN GREEN, ASHAMED TO BE SEEN...!" SO THE DITTY RUNS...AND SO YOU'D BETTER WEAR WHITE AND BELIEVE THE GREEKS, WHO CONSIDERED WHITE THE SYMBOL OF JOY!



SHIVAREE IS THE CUSTOM OF BOISTEROUSLY SERENADING A NEWLY-MARRIED COUPLE! ITS ORIGIN IS THE PRIMITIVE PRACTICE OF BEATING DRUMS TO KEEP EVIL SPIRITS AWAY FROM THE NEWLYWEDS! TODAY, THE TORMENTING DIN USUALLY CONTINUES UNTIL THE BRIDEGROOM TOSSES THE NOISE-MAKERS A HANDFUL OF COINS!



AND THE YOUNG COUPLES OF TODAY OUGHT TO BE TRULY GRATEFUL TO THAT ANONYMOUS ROMAN GENIUS--BECAUSE KISSING THE BRIDE IS MORE THAN A SYMBOLIC GESTURE TO SEAL THE MATRIMONIAL VOWS...IT'S ALSO A SYMBOL OF THE CLOSE AND TENDER BOND WHICH WILL ALWAYS EXIST BETWEEN TWO HAPPY PEOPLE!



DATING

DO'S and DON'TS

DO BE PROMPT ON A DATE! NOTHING ANTAGONIZES A BOY MORE THAN TO BE KEPT WAITING WHILE HIS DATE PRIMPS AND FUSSES! YOU MAY THINK YOU'RE JUST TANTALIZING HIM...BUT YOU'RE REALLY MAKING HIM RESENTFUL!

OH, HELLO, DON! DID I KEEP YOU WAITING LONG?

GOSH, NO! YOU SAID YOU'D BE READY AT EIGHT...AND IT'S JUST EIGHT NOW!... YOU LOOK WONDERFUL, ALICE!



DON'T STAND YOUR DATE UP JUST TO PLAY HARD TO GET...OR YOU'LL BE FINDING DATES HARD TO GET!

YOU SAY YOU HAD A DATE WITH ALICE TONIGHT? BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND...SHE WENT TO THE MOVIES AN HOUR AGO...WITH SOMEONE ELSE!

THAT'LL SHOW HIM I'M POPULAR! HE'LL BE EATING OUT OF MY HAND FROM NOW ON... I HOPE!



DO SUGGEST ECONOMICAL DATES IF YOU KNOW YOUR ESCORT DOESN'T HAVE MUCH MONEY! HE'LL BE GRATEFUL TO YOU...AND WHEN HE DOES START EARNING ENOUGH MONEY, HE'LL BE HAPPY TO SPEND IT ON YOU!

OH, THIS IS FUN! I'D MUCH RATHER BE HERE THAN IN SOME GNOBBISH NIGHT CLUB!

WELL, WHEN I LAND THAT TOP-PAYING JOB, WE'RE REALLY GOING TO PAINT THE TOWN RED!



DON'T INSIST ON EXPENSIVE DATES WHEN YOU KNOW YOUR ESCORT CAN'T AFFORD IT! A MAN WON'T EVEN THINK OF MARRYING A GIRL WHO THINKS ONLY OF SPENDING MONEY!

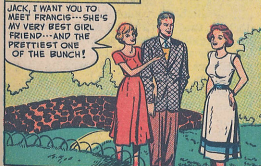
OH, COME ON, DARLING! YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE...AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO STINGY ABOUT SPENDING MONEY ON ME! DON'T YOU WANT ME TO HAVE A GOOD TIME?

BUT I CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE YOU IN THAT PLACE...AND I DON'T THINK I CAN AFFORD YOU, EITHER!



DO BE GRACIOUS ABOUT INTRODUCING YOUR OTHER GIRL FRIENDS TO YOUR DATE! IF YOU DO, HE'LL KNOW YOU'RE NOT AFRAID OF COMPETITION...AND HE'LL ADMIRE YOU ALL THE MORE!

JACK, I WANT YOU TO MEET FRANCIS...SHE'S MY VERY BEST GIRL FRIEND...AND THE PRETTIEST ONE OF THE BUNCH!



DON'T BE CATTY AND CRITICAL OF OTHER GIRLS! IF YOU KEEP KNOCKING THEM, YOUR DATE WILL THINK YOU'RE AFRAID OF COMPETITION FROM THEM...AND HE'LL START BEING CRITICAL OF YOU!

THAT'S FRANCIS...NO ONE LIKES HER AT ALL! SHE'S ONE OF THE MOST DISAGREEABLE PERSONS I KNOW...LET ME TELL YOU SOME OF THE STORIES THAT HAVE BEEN GOING AROUND ABOUT HER...

NEVER A KIND WORD ABOUT ANYBODY! I'D BETTER DROP HER BEFORE SHE STARTS SPREADING STORIES ABOUT ME...TO KEEP ME ALL TO HERSELF!



Doctor's ORDERS

In her crisp, starched uniform, her sensible oxfords, and small, pleated cap, Agatha looked anything but prim. Her chestnut curls and full, curved lips were not the least bit professional-looking. But her eyes flashed fire as she studied the orders left by the doctor before she came on duty.

"The patient is to have absolute rest and quiet," she read. "*No excitement whatever!*"

Agatha threw a scornful look at these words. This was her very first case, and she had not, as yet, met Dr. Morrison, whose signature was sprawled so authoritatively under "*No excitement whatsoever!*"

"A lot he knows!" she said, looking from the paper in her hand to the small patient in the white iron bed. The patient, who was all of seven, stared back at her somberly. He was a small, pale boy, with a shock of corn-colored hair and a wistful expression. His right leg was encased in a heavy, cumbersome plaster cast. He didn't seem to be at all interested in getting better.

Agatha smiled at him. "Hello Will," she said. I'm your new nurse. I'm going to see that you get better, fast!"

The boy looked at her politely. He made no effort to answer.

"If you wait here, I'll be right back!" Agatha said. "Now don't go away!"

The boy smiled faintly, as though the idea of going away had amused him. Agatha was relieved to see that he could smile at all. "Poor kid, he's bored," she thought, as she ducked out of a side exit and ran across the street to the toy shop.

Ten minutes later, Agatha was back, laden with parcels. "This is a finger-painting set," she told her patient, "and here's some modelling clay and here's a comic book and a monopoly set! Think you can beat me?"

In a short time, Agatha and her

patient were completely absorbed in their game. The little boy was beginning to get a touch of color in his cheeks as he laughed loudly. Agatha was thrilled with her success.

"How about some milk?" she started to suggest, when an angry male voice caused her to jump.

"I see you don't believe in following doctor's orders, Miss Wilson! Do you realize you're disobeying my instructions?"

Agatha found herself staring at the most attractive man she'd ever seen. Dr. Morrison was lean, dark, gray-eyed, and at the moment, furious. Agatha's temper leaped to meet his.

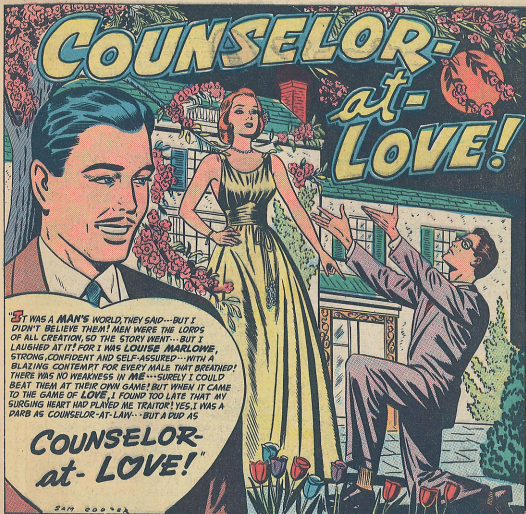
"Look at your patient, doctor!" she snapped. "I should say he's greatly improved. . . despite your instructions!"

There was something about the defiant set of her jaw, the square look of her shoulders, that infuriated the doctor still further. Ordinarily a composed, poised man, he found himself holding the square shoulders in his firm hands and trying to shake the defiance out of Agatha's face.

But the warmth of her shoulders through the starched uniform, the shocked "oh" formed by her full lips, diverted his attention. It was confusing to find that what had started out as punishment seemed to be turning into. . . a kiss!

"This girl is delightful. . . impudent . . . unreliable . . . adorable . . ." The doctor's face was a study as he released her. Agatha's cap was crooked and her curls were mussed, but she smiled a little as she said, "That was hardly professional, Dr. Morrison! However, you will admit that the excitement has helped your patient, won't you?"

The doctor smiled back, unsteadily. "It's helped me too, Miss Wilson! Can we discuss this further. . . tonight?"



"LET'S GO BACK TO 1924, READER! THAT'S ME IN THE NEARER CARRIAGE... AND IT SOUNDS AS IF MOTHER HAD PLANS FOR ME!"

MY HARRY IS GOING TO BE A REAL MAN... HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP OF THE WORLD, I'LL BET!

REALLY? I'M GLAD MY BABY IS A GIRL... MRS. GILMORE... BECAUSE LOUISE IS GOING TO BE THE GENTLEST, MOST LOVING GIRL A MAN COULD EVER HOPE FOR!



"WELL, READER, DO YOU THINK THOSE PREDICTIONS WERE GOING TO COME TRUE? LET'S SKIP SIX YEARS AND LOOK IN ON THE LAWN ADJOINING THE GILMORE AND MARLOWE HOMES... WHERE THE VIGOROUS, MANLY HARRY AND THE GENTLE, TENDER LOUISE ARE PLAYING SWEETLY TOGETHER..."

I'LL SHOW YOU A GIRL IS BETTER'N A BOY... I'LL MAKE YOU YELL UNCLE!

OWW! GET OFFA ME! STOP... UNCLE, UNCLE, UNCLE!



"YES, A GIRL'S BETTER THAN A BOY... I HAD TO PROVE IT! DOLLS AND JUMPING ROPES WERE FOR OTHERS... FOR ME, THERE WAS ONLY CONSTANT COMPETITION WITH THE 'STRONGER' SEX! I GREW OLDER FORCING THEM TO SQUIRM... MAKING THEM ADMIT THAT A GIRL COULD BEAT THEM... AT ANYTHING!"

WOW! LOUISE DID IT... SHE WON THE HIGH-SCHOOL MILE!

WHAT ARE YOU SO HAPPY ABOUT, HARRY? I WISH SOMEONE COULD BEAT HER AT SOMETHING! SHE'S BEGINNING TO THINK TOO MUCH OF HERSELF... AND TOO LITTLE OF US!



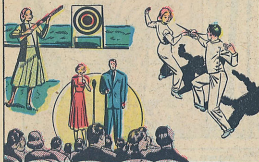
"NOW I HAD THEM WHERE I WANTED... ENVYING ME! BUT THAT WASN'T ENOUGH... I SCORNED AND HATED THEM FOR THEIR MALE SMUGNESS, WANTED THEM TO GROVEL BEFORE ME! BUT MOST OF ALL I DETESTED HARRY GILMORE... THE WEAKLING WHO TROTTED AFTER ME LIKE A TAME LAMB... EVEN FOLLOWING ME TO COLLEGE!"

ER... LOUISE! COULD YOU... MAYBE... GO DANCING WITH ME TONIGHT?

DANCE... WITH YOU? I WON'T BE LED BY ANY MAN... AND CERTAINLY NOT BY A MOUSE!



"B SHOWED THEM... SHOWED THEM ALL! ONLY A WOMAN, BUT I MET THEM ON THEIR OWN GROUNDS... BECAME THE BEST SHOT ON THE RIFLE TEAM, CAPTAIN OF THE FENCING SQUAD, PRESIDENT OF THE DEBATING SOCIETY..."



"B DESPISED DANCES AND PARTIES AS BEING FIT ONLY FOR SILLY, GIGGLING GIRLS... THOSE WHO MADE ME ASHAMED OF MY OWN SEX! BUT I DID CONDESCEND TO ATTEND THE VICTORY DANCE CELEBRATING THE TRIUMPH OF THE GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM... OF WHICH I WAS CAPTAIN!"

SAY, KITTEN, I SAW YOU WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP TODAY AS CAPTAIN OF THE MEN'S VARSITY SQUAD. I THINK I CAN GIVE YOU SOME POINTERS! COME ON OUT ON THE TERRACE!

I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING ANY MAN CAN TELL ME, BUT I'LL LISTEN A WHILE... BEFORE I START LAUGHING!



YOU WON'T LAUGH AT ME, BABY... BECAUSE YOU CAN'T LAUGH WHEN YOU'RE BEING KISSED BY A MAN WHO KNOWS NOW!

OH!!!



TAKE THIS... FROM A GIRL WHO KNOWS NOW!

OWWWW!



THAT'S WHERE ALL YOU MEN OUGHT TO BE... ON YOUR KNEES! I'M ONE GAL WHO'S NOT FALLING FOR YOU CAMPUS HEROES... THERE'S NOT A MAN ALIVE WHO CAN MAKE ME MELT AND SNOON OVER HIM!



"FROM THAT TIME ON, I WAS GRIMLY DETERMINED NEVER TO LET A MAN TRICK ME! AND ONCE I KNEW THE POWER OF MY GOOD LOOKS, I BEGAN TRICKING MEN, USING THEM FOR MY OWN PURPOSES!"

OH, HARRY, YOU'D BE A **DARLING** IF YOU TEAMED UP WITH ME ON THE GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP! I HAVEN'T LOOKED FOR A SPECIMEN ALL TERM... AND DR. GMEDELEY SAID IF I DIDN'T HAVE MY COLLECTION COMPLETE AT THE END OF THIS TRIP, I'D **FLUNK**!

WHY... WHY, I'D BE GLAD TO GO WITH YOU, LOUISE! I... I'LL FIND ALL THE SPECIMENS YOU NEED!

"GRIND LIKE HARRY TO DO ALL THE DIRTY WORK FOR ME... THAT WAS ONE SAMPLE OF MY POWER OVER MEN! BUT OH, HE WAS SO DULL, SUCH A BORE, THAT IT WAS A RELIEF TO COME ACROSS SOME LOVELY SCENERY THAT WOULD TAKE MY MIND OFF HIM!"

OH, THIS... THIS LAKE IS **BEAUTIFUL**!

SHE-- SHE'S REALLY GETTING **ROMANTIC**! COULD SHE EXPECT ME TO... TO KISS HER, PERHAPS? M-MAYBE, I'D BETTER PLAY SAFE... AND KISS HER **CHEEK** FIRST!



OH... LOUISE... I **L-LOVE** YOU... I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU!



ULP!

WHY, YOU **SIMPERING SAP!**... TAKE THAT!

GET THIS, MR. MOUSE! I COULD HAVE THE PICK OF **ANY MAN ON THE CAMPUS**... AND IF I EVER WANTED A MAN TO ROMANCE WITH THAT'S JUST WHOM I'D PICK... **A MAN! SO KEEP OUT OF MY WAY... OR ELSE!**

"COLLEGE ENDED... AND MY GOAL WAS CLEAR IN MY MIND! I WAS GOING TO BE A SUCCESS IN A MAN'S PROFESSION... **LAW!** MY MEMORIES OF HARRY GILMORE FADED DURING THREE YEARS OF LAW SCHOOL... AND FINALLY..."

AT LAST! I'M GOING TO RISE RIGHT TO THE TOP... AND **NO MAN'S GOING TO STOP ME!**



LOUISE MARLOWE
COUNSELOR-AT-LAW

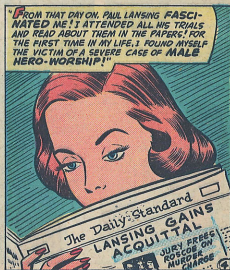
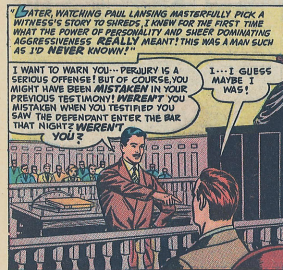
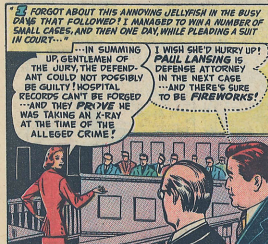
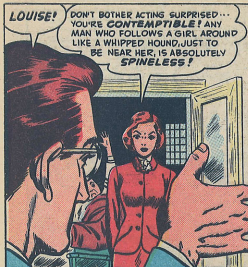
"AND THEN, AS I HAPPENED TO GLANCE AT THE OFFICE NEXT DOOR..."

WHY... WHY, THAT **CAN'T** BE A COINCIDENCE! THAT SNEAK MUST HAVE **PURPOSEFULLY** TAKEN AN OFFICE NEXT TO MINE! I'LL FIX HIM!



HARRY GILMORE
CERTIFIED
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT





"A STRANGE COMPULSION GRIPPED ME... I HAD TO MEET THE ONLY MAN I'D EVER ADMIRER! SO, AFTER WEEKS OF WATCHING HIM BREATHLESSLY FROM AFAR..."

"OH, MR. LANSING, I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW **SUPERB** YOU WERE IN COURT TODAY..."

"YES, YES, I KNOW! IF YOU'LL KINDLY RELEASE ME, I'M A BUSY MAN..."



"BUT THEN, AS HE WAS ABOUT TO HURRY BY, HE GLANCED AT ME..."

"SAY! I TAKE THAT ALL BACK... I MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR **Pretty Girls** LIKE YOU! BUT HOW ABOUT THE TWO OF US EXCHANGING COMPLIMENTS AT DINNER, INSTEAD OF HERE?"

"WHY... WHY, THANK YOU, MR. LANSING! I'D LOVE TO!"



"I WAS ELATED... AND DETERMINED TO SHOW HIM I HAD MORE THAN GOOD LOOKS!"

"SINCE I'M A LAWYER MYSELF, I CAN TELL YOU YOU HANDLED THAT CASE **MASTERFULLY!** THE ONLY OTHER WAY YOU COULD HAVE WON WAS BY POINTING OUT THAT THE CORONER'S DEATH REPORT WAS FILED A HALF-HOUR BEFORE THE MURDER... THE WHOLE CASE WAS OBVIOUSLY A FRAME-UP!"

"SAY... YOU'RE **RIGHT!** I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT OF THAT ANGLE... AND IT WOULD HAVE SAVED ME A LOT OF TROUBLE! YOU KNOW, YOU'RE **QUITE A GAL!** YOU'VE GOT A **BRAIN** BEHIND THAT PRETTY FACE OF YOURS!"



"HMM, I'VE BEEN SWAMPED WITH WORK THESE LAST FEW MONTHS... I CAN USE AN ASSISTANT WITH A TOP-FLIGHT LEGAL SENSE! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY SOME OF MY CASES..."

"LOUISE?"

"OH, I... I'D BE **THRILLED** AT THE CHANCE! I ONLY HOPE I CAN LIVE UP TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS OF ME..."

"PAUL!"

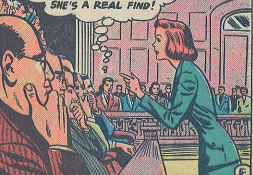


"MY EXULTANCY KNEW NO BOUNDS AS I BEGAN PLEADING MY FIRST CASE FOR PAUL LANSING; AND AS I WATCHED THE EXPRESSION ON THE JURORS' FACES, I BEGAN TO REALIZE THAT I WAS HANDLING IT **MASTERFULLY!**"

"I KNOW THAT EACH ONE OF YOU HAS A HEART... A HEART THAT WOULD NEVER ALLOW THIS UNFORTUNATE YOUTH TO PAY THE EXTREME PENALTY FOR A CRIME WHICH IS ACTUALLY THE RESULT OF HIS ENVIRONMENT!"



"SHE HAS THEM EATING OUT OF HER HAND... THEY'LL BRING BACK A **NOT GUILTY** VERDICT! THAT CRUZY KALE JURY NEVER WOULD HAVE SWALLOWED MY LINE, BUT SHE'S PRACTICALLY GOT 'EM SOBING ON HER SHOULDERS... AND WHAT A **PRETTY PAIR OF SHOULDERS!** SHE'S A **REAL FIND!**"



"I WON THAT CASE, AND I BEGAN TO HOPE THAT I WAS ALSO WINNING PAUL LANSING! FOR IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, PAUL AND I BEGAN SPENDING ALL OUR SPARE TIME TOGETHER...AND THE FOUNDED OF MY HEART DURING THOSE ENCHANTED HOURS TOLD ME I'D AT LAST FOUND WHAT I'D NEVER HOPED FOR...A MAN I COULD LOVE!"



"THAT WAS THE SOUR NOTE...AND THE NEXT NIGHT, THIS WAS THE SWEETEST ONE THAT EVER FILLED A GIRL'S HEART WITH OVERFLOWING HAPPINESS!"



LOUISE...I LOVE YOU!

OH, PAUL, DARLING!

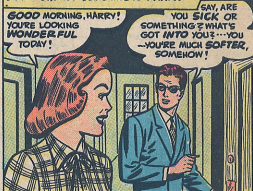
"BUT THERE WAS ONE SOUR NOTE...HARRY GILMORE!"

BUT LOUISE, YOU CAN'T GO ON DOING THAT SHYSTER'S DIRTY WORK FOR HIM! HE'S GOT A ROTTEN REPUTATION...NOT ONLY DOES HE DEFEND THOSE CRIMINAL FRIENDS OF HIS, BUT HE'S PROBABLY THE MAN BEHIND THEM!



I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOUR PITIFUL WHININGS...AND THEY WON'T WORK! I KNOW YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS--OF A REAL MAN!

"BENEATH HIS SEARING KISS FLED EVERY DESIRE I'D EVER HAD OF DOMINATING AND VANQUISHING MEN! FOR NOW THAT I WAS IN LOVE, I FOUND MY OWN HEART VANQUISHED...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I WAS COMPLETELY SUBSERVIENT TO A MAN'S WISHES! IN MY NEW-FOUND BLISS, I EVEN STARTED BEING NICE TO HARRY..."



GOOD MORNING, HARRY! YOU'RE LOOKING WONDERFUL TODAY!

SAY, ARE YOU SICK OR SOMETHING? WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU?...YOU --YOU'RE MUCH SOFTER, SOMEHOW!

"THEN, A WEEK LATER, PAUL PAID AN UNEXPECTED VISIT TO MY OFFICE..."



I HAD TO SEE YOU IN A HURRY, DARLING! FLOYD GARNER WANTS ME TO DEFEND HIM ON ANOTHER RAP--GOP-KILLING, THIS TIME? I THINK YOU'D DO A BETTER JOB ON THIS CASE THAN I CAN!

FLOYD GARNER! BUT PAUL, YOU CAN'T DEFEND A...A ROTTEN KILLER LIKE HIM! HE AND HIS HOODLUMS HAVE TERRORIZED THE ENTIRE CITY! PUBLIC OPINION WOULD BRAND YOU IF YOU TRIED TO DEFEND HIM...YOUR REPUTATION WOULD BE RUINED!

PLEASE, DARLING...TELL HIM YOU WON'T TAKE HIS CASE! DO IT FOR ME...FOR US...FOR OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

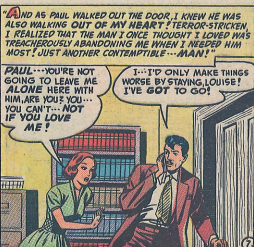


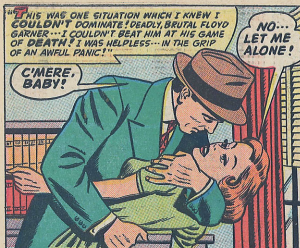
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT! THE PUBLIC WOULD PUT UP A HOWL IF HE WERE ACQUITTED! HE'S OUT ON BAIL...I'LL CALL HIM UP RIGHT NOW AND TELL HIM I DON'T WANT HIS MONEY!

AND YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO FIND SOME OTHER LAWYER TO HELP YOU BEAT THAT RAP! I'M THROUGH! --CLICK!

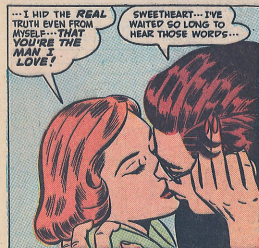
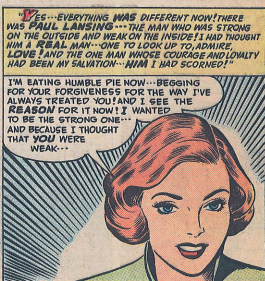
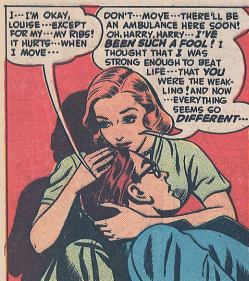
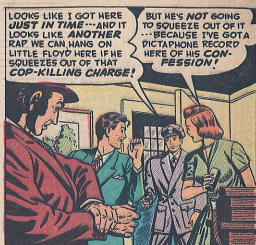


WHY, THAT BLASTED MOUTHPIECE...I'LL FIX HIM! WE'RE GONNA PAY HIM A LITTLE VISIT!









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